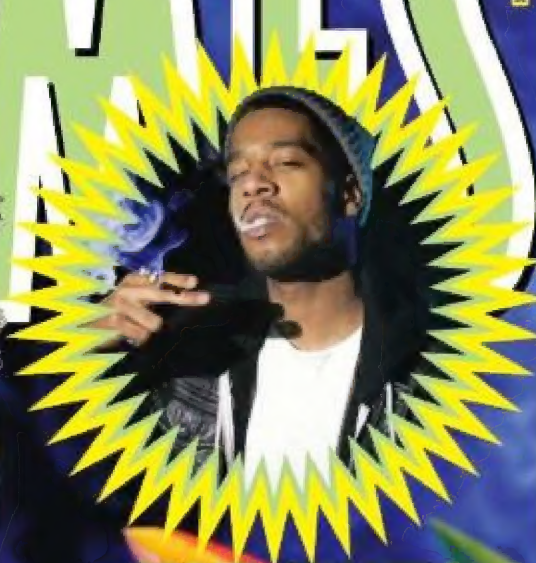


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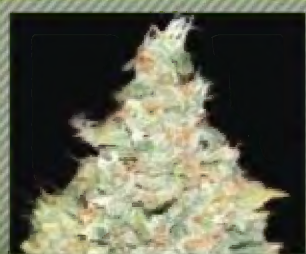
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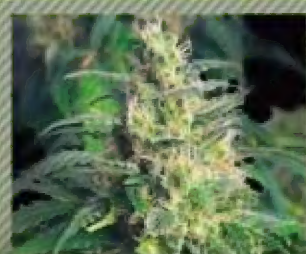
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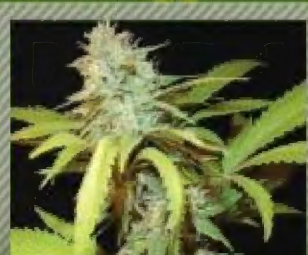
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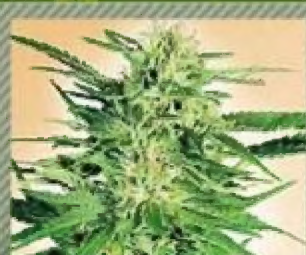
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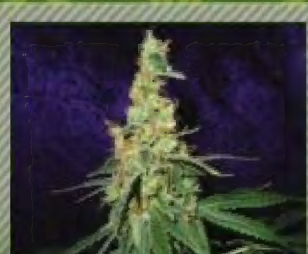
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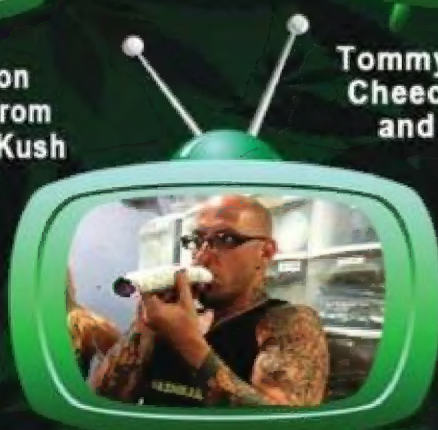
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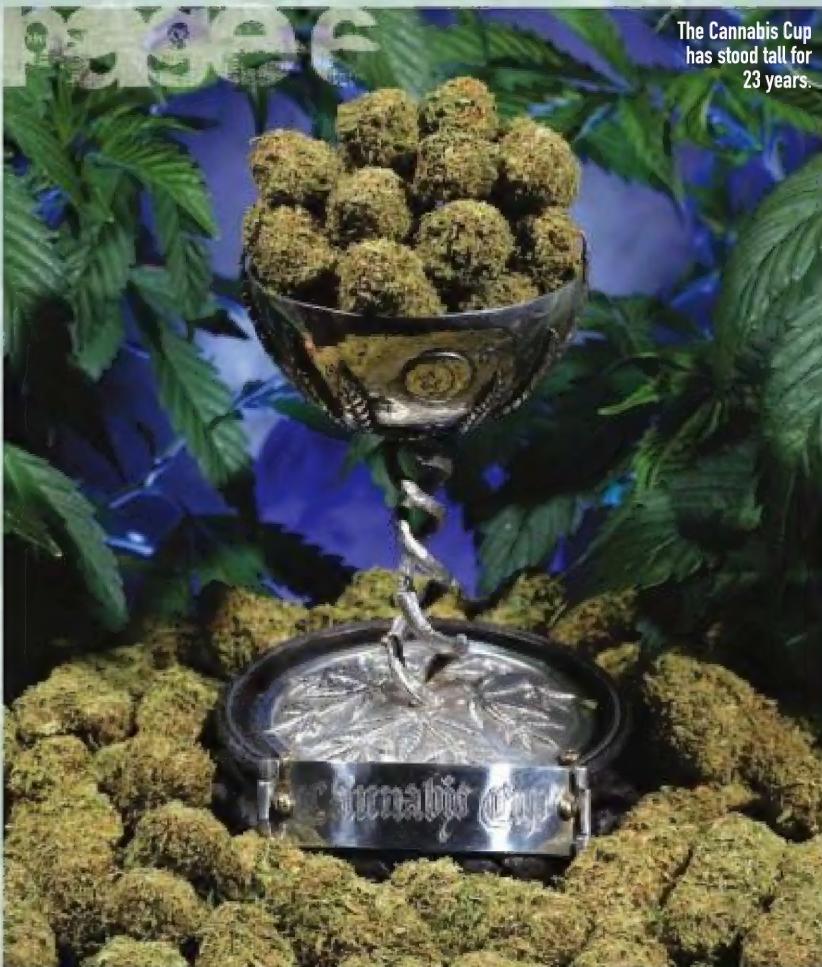
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KENT SEA

THE MIRACLES OF CANNABIS

I wasn't supposed to attend the Cup this year. I know, I know—that sounds awfully sad, but I had to spend at least one Thanksgiving with Mom before she finally disowns me for good. However, as fate would have it, certain circumstances required that I make it to Amsterdam this year—but with the promise that I leave early and be home in time for turkey (which I did).

But I'm glad I went, because my charge was a new one and extremely unique. Not many people in the history of the Cup have been asked to do what I did, which was simply to oversee the entry process—including the numerous specimens of the world's best marijuana and hashish. Each coffeshop owner, each master grower, each seed breeder entering the Cup came with their best cannabis and hash, and I was lucky enough to be the first to smell, taste and feel the effects of each. This was, in a word, AWESOME. The amazing experience brings a tear to my eye, in some weird way—but even more, it makes me realize what a blessing the Cannabis Cup really is.

The Cup is a gift to marijuana lovers—to growers, patients, breeders and smokers—because, for the past 23 years, this event has been unifying our global community as well as proliferating and disseminating information and genetics around the world. What a fucking miracle, really. Thanks be to Tom Forçade for creating HIGH TIMES, and to Steve Hager for founding the Cup, and, of course, to the omnipresent higher powers for giving us all each other—because, honestly, it's the thousands of Cupgoers that really make it happen.

As a token of thanks to you, our readers, please accept and enjoy our latest Cannabis Cup issue, complete with stories and reviews from one of the greatest weeks ever and our exclusive photos of the winners—the world's greatest strains in the past year. But that's not all: We also have some big features on environmentally responsible grow ops as well as an expert piece on outdoor water techniques—not to mention my own little article on seed breeding and just how the greatest strains find their way to the Cup.

So that's it for now; I'll let you get to it. After all, I'm way late on my deadline (as usual). I hope you enjoy and, as always, thank you for reading!

Stay well, amigos,

Nico Escondido
Nico Escondido
Cultivation Editor

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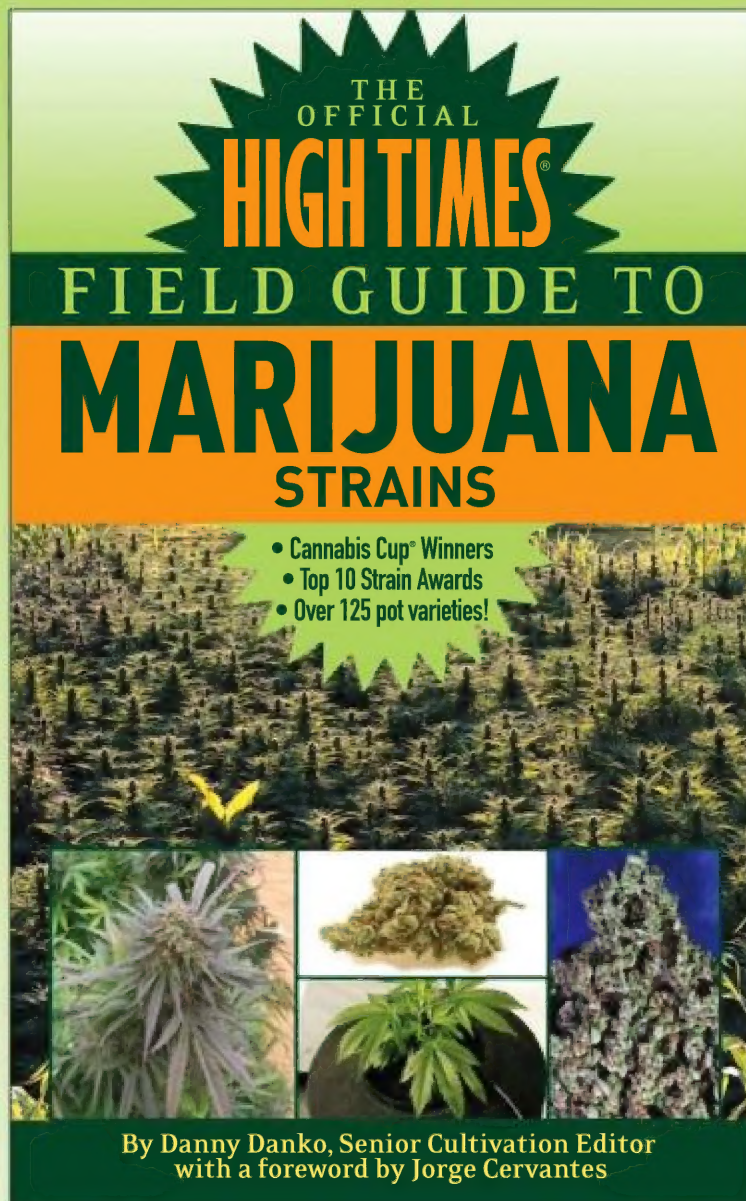
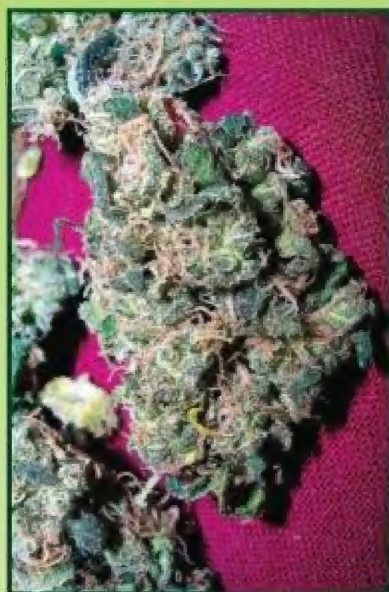


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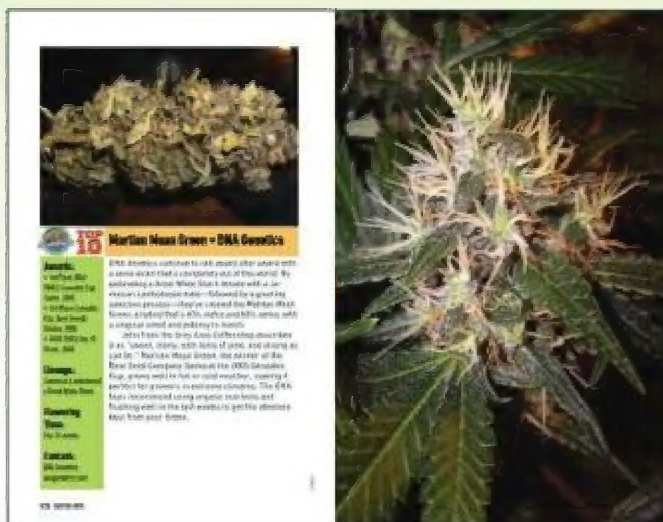
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HIGH TIMES

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FEATURES

38 BREEDING FOR THE CUP

BY NICO ESCONDIDO

Ever wonder how the competition for the *Indica* and *Sativa* Cups goes down in Amsterdam every year, who gets to enter, and just how the seed breeders do it? Nico takes a behind-the-scenes look while also profiling an up-and-coming new seed company. The rules, regulations and goals of the Cup are discussed, and the how-to side of creating and breeding new strains is outlined in detail by our resident cultivation geek.

46 ROMANCING THE STONE

BY DAN SKYE

The HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup is always a merry romp through the world of ganja. Every year, new strains emerge, new hash varieties are unveiled, and innovative new products for cannabis consumers and cultivators alike make their debut. The 23rd Cup was no different, with thousands in attendance blissfully inhaling the best bud in the world.

76 OUTDOOR WATER HARVESTING AND APPLICATION

BY HUGH JIÉLDER

Our in-depth series concludes with the second installment on a garden's most prized resource—water! This time, Hugh Jiélder takes us on a closer inspection of outdoor cultivation and all the ins and outs of keeping your plants well watered and happy. Among the topics covered by HT's West Coast reporter: water-collection options and methods, storage and irrigation techniques, and filtration tools. It's that time of year again, so if you're planning to grow some outdoor this summer, this is a can't-miss primer!

86 THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW: DAN FOGLER

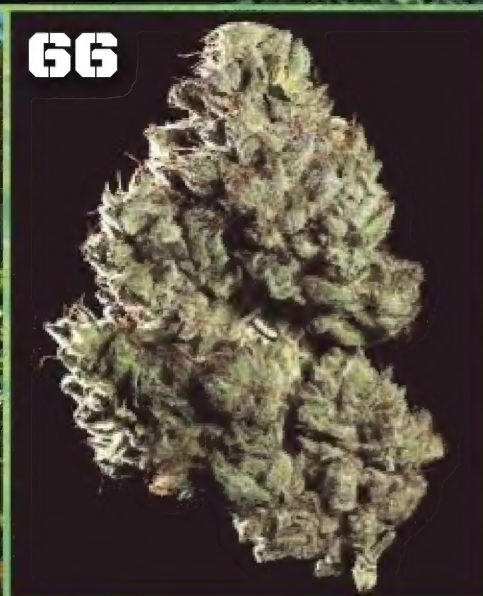
BY DAN SKYE

He's the star of *Balls of Fury*, *Kung Fu Panda* and the upcoming high-energy teen flick *Take Me Home Tonight*. But Dan Fogler is also a Tony Award-winning actor and accomplished film director with a number of irons in his creative fire—and he makes no apology that cannabis serves as his muse.

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EDITED BY DAN SKYE

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EDITED BY DANNY DANKO & NICO ESCONDIDO
Pix of the Crop; Cannabis Clinic; Munchies; NORM-Lizer; Freedom Fighter; Dr. Mitch; SSDP Report; War Stories; Environmental Growing by Dave Bienenstock; Dear Danko.

126 NEXT MONTH

132 POT 40

COVER: FREEBIE STRAIN: TANGERINE DREAM
CENTERFOLD: FREEBIE STRAIN: ASSORTED

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WAY TO GROW!

I've been studying your magazine month after month, reading all the articles—which, I must add, are very informative—but I've noticed very few pieces on auto-flowering plants. I'm very interested in the Lowryder strains and would really love to see a page dedicated just to them, featuring pictures, grow information and any other tips you may have. Every one of you at HT is a great help! Thanks a lot!

Kyle W.
North Carolina

I would like to thank you for providing such an informative magazine for the public. Although marijuana is illegal, it's the third most popular recreational drug, behind only tobacco and alcohol, and your magazine provides important information to the many people who continue to smoke it. Not only do you inform them how to grow better, but also how to prevent problems with the law. These laws are often hard to understand (especially our rights as citizens), but in your HIGH TIMES Legal Directory, there are several suggestions for avoiding trouble with the police, especially information on the protocols the police have to follow before they can search anything. It also tells people of the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution and how to use them to their advantage.

Zach B.

SEED THANKS

I just want to say thanks! I've been following your website and appreciate your research and knowledgeable remarks concerning seed banks. I've bought from Attitude Seeds and can definitely vouch for them: They were professional, shipped immediately and answered my emails, and I received my seeds quickly, silently and "all-real." I have recommended them to others and will order from them in the future! Thanks again, and keep up the good work for all of us.

Janis Browning

WRECKED IN CANADA

I'm from Saskatchewan and have smoked some stuff that came from BC called Trainwreck Kush. It was unlike any other Kush I've ever tasted, and I've had Purple, Hindu and Kaia Kush, as well as a couple of others. But I've never heard any buzz about Trainwreck Kush or seen it in the mag—and the TK doesn't make its way out here anymore, either. I'd love to hear more about this strain if you guys know anything about it.

Jesse

FOOL ME ONCE ...

To all you growers out there in California who voted no on Proposition 19, I shake my head in sadness. You didn't want to see weed in the government's hands, so hopefully you won't get busted in the next two years (i.e., before the next vote), because then you'll see what the government can



really do once you get arrested. Just sayin'.

William

KUSH KRAZE

One of my favorite Kush effects (it was a piney *indica* with little nuggets and sold as Kush via I don't know how many middlemen) is this sort of gentle breaking down of facial recognition. As part of the mildly psychedelic euphoria, I found that my face looked less familiar and that things in general appeared

small (while *sativas* tend to make things look big). It also increased sexual interest and took some getting used to—e.g., after one hit, I was panicked by how much my brain seemed to slow down. Then, after getting used to the effects, it was a lovely slow ride, though I did have to "walk it off" at first!

ethnobotany fan

MORE ON KUSH

Great 420th edition!!! Congratulations, HIGH TIMES, and keep those flowers blooming! At last, the question is solved—thanks, Danko. Don't think it's ironic that Kush is from Pakistan and Afghanistan, since they are still on the Hindu subcontinent. Besides, those regions existed before the Indian pacifist revolution due to the fear of Muslims in India being discriminated against for being a minority. (*Kusha* = a type of grass in India.) Again, congratulations! Jay, HIGH TIMES!

Kaan

BODY PAINTING

To Brittany and the Artist Kelsie: Thank you so much for doing this! You looked amazing, and this was far and away my favorite page of issue 420!

Gram Sky

This was a very fun project with my friend Brittany for HT's 420th issue. It's my hope that everyone really enjoys and remembers this. Check me out at theartistkelsie.com and let me know what you think.—The Artist Kelsie

PHOTO BOMB

I loved my picture at the Telluride Mushroom Festival in the January '11 issue!

S. Starr

GET LEGAL NOW!

You all know it's okay to smoke pot. I am now in school to become a pastor. I hope they legalize it soon (or something), but if they don't and I get ordained, I will be a pot-smoking pastor. "God made everything, and He saw that everything He made was good"—Genesis 1:31!

Wish to Smoke

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The Green House is one of the most elegant coffeeshops in Holland.

DUTCH CHILL

In December, the European Court of Justice ruled that tourists could be banned from buying pot in Dutch coffeeshops. The new rule was the result of a 5-year legal wrangle. In 2006, the Easy Going Cafe in Maastricht had been forced to close after complaints were filed that foreigners had purchased pot there. The owner, Marc Michel Josemans, had argued that the decision violated European Union rules. But the court ruled that the city could impose the rule in order to combat drug tourism and the accompanying public nuisance. Although the cannabis industry and law enforcement know that public nuisances are generally caused by alcohol consumption—not pot smoking—political observers state that it is possible the restrictions could be extended to cover the entire country.



THE HIGH PRICE OF GAS

This hurts on so many levels. In the midst of our economic downturn, some Americans are definitely suffering more than others. We came upon this monstrosity recently while traveling through the Northern California hinterlands. It's bad enough that this gas pump will cost you over \$80 to fill a 20-gallon tank. But is it really necessary to besmirch both 420 and the word "patriot" while we're being price-gouged?



Residents of Big Sky country band together to stop pot prosecutions.

CANNA MONTANA

Henry David Thoreau once posed the question: "Unjust laws exist: shall we be content to obey them, or shall we endeavor to amend them, and obey them until we have succeeded, or shall we transgress them at once?" If Missoula, MT jurors have anything to say about it, the answer is: "Don't bother us with this crap anymore."

In December, Teuray Cornell faced a felony and misdemeanor charge for possessing and selling pot. But Missoula had to cut a deal with Cornell because of the 27 jurors called to serve, five expressed reservations about prosecuting marijuana cases. Cornell's possession charge was dismissed, but he was convicted on the felony rap. Commenting on this case of jury revolt, Ethan Nadelmann, head of the Drug Policy Alliance said, "There is no other criminal law on the books that is enforced so harshly and pervasively that almost half of Americans don't think should be a crime in the first place. That's why this happens."



Activist/model Watermelon knows that buds are a source of beauty.

POT & THE PERFECT COMPLEXION

Acne, the scourge of many a high school class picture, may have a new enemy—cannabis. Acne results from the overproduction of a lipid (oily substance) from sebaceous glands that waterproof the skin. The cells that make up these glands are sebocytes. The sebaceous glands, like many parts of the human body, also have endocannabinoid receptors. Endocannabinoids are substances (including lipids) from within the body that activate cannabinoid receptors; receptors are protein molecules that trigger a reaction/change within cells. This means that certain cannabis compounds can manipulate sebocytes to prevent pimples and zap zits.

As reported by the medical cannabis journal O'Shaughnessy's, Hungarian scientist Tamas Biro has done extensive research into the subject. By applying endocannabinoids to the sebocytes, he observed CB2 receptors increasing lipid production. (CB2 receptors are cannabinoid receptors with medicinal value, they don't get you high). Conversely, blocking the endocannabinoids with an agonist drug cuts off the oil well. (Agonists are the chemicals that bind to receptors in order to change cells).

Dr. Biro has experimented with CBD (cannabidiol, a pot compound that doesn't get you high), which is legal in Hungary as opposed to the outlawed psychoactive THC. While CBD prevents lipid creation it doesn't compromise the viability of cells, as opposed to mainstream medications that kill the sebocytes. Biro also intends to conduct a study into the anti-acne properties that THC may have.

Tunnels from Mexico are popping up in San Diego.



TUNNEL VISION

Just four blocks from the border of Mexico lies the community of Otay Mesa, part of the city of San Diego, CA. However, it's what lies beneath Otay Mesa that has Immigration and Customs Enforcement nosing around local warehouses. Lately, a number of tunnels have been discovered that travel underground from Mexico and surface in Otay Mesa warehouses. Late last year, the Feds found two such tunnels and seized 50 tons of pot.

It's not unusual for the tunnels to have power and ventilation systems. One such tunnel, discovered in 2006, stretched over a mile in length. Federal agents are asking warehouse owners to keep an ear to the ground—literally—and listen for subterranean noises.

UK DRUG DEBATE

Bob Ainsworth's title was a mouthful: "Parliamentary Under-Secretary with responsibility for Drugs and Organised Crime and Minister of State for the Armed Forces." And now that Bob's out of office, he's said a mouthful. Ainsworth told *The Independent*: "We need to take effective measures to rob the dealers of their markets and the only way that we can do that is by supplying addicts through the medical profession, through prescription. We cannot afford to be shy about being prepared to do that."

In response, the *Daily Mail* conducted a poll asking whether drugs be decriminalized. At last count, nearly 70 percent of those weighing in favored decriminalization.



Bob airs it out.

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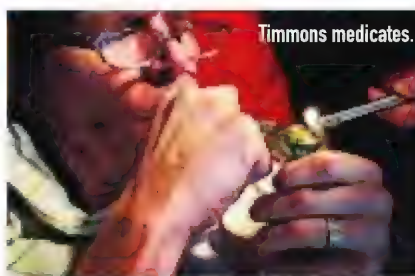
SURFAN' ON A SEA OF GREEN

The weather outside is frightful. But when it's less scary, hit the beach wearing surf shorts that show your true colors. And although that color may actually be green, you'll definitely dig the shorts' psychedelic print featuring a ganja garden with lifelike buds in full bloom. The shorts are designed by Lifted Research Group, or LRG. Check out LRG's entire closet of cool, conscious duds. Visit l-r-g.com.

SHOWDOWN IN TEXAS

Tim Timmons, 54, from Garland, TX, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1987 and uses pot to combat painful muscle spasms, in conjunction with prescription drugs. A staunch Republican and Texas conservative Christian, Timmons resents being reliant on the pot black market. But self-medication—and survival—is more critical than abstract ideals. Recently, the mostly bedridden Timmons almost died from bedsores (a common killer of MS patients). However, Tim never stopped promoting medical pot—despite being on his literal deathbed, until a “cocktail” of antibiotics saved his life. In an interview with the *Dallas Morning News*, Timmons openly defied the outdated Texas laws that deny him his medicine: “I would love [Texas Gov.] Rick Perry to be the guy who arrests me. It would cost the state of Texas \$500,000 a year to take care of me in prison.”

Medcan University is crafting a bill that would legalize medical pot in Texas. Dubbed “The Tim Timmons Compassionate Care Act of 2011,” its passage would allow private dispensaries to be established, although patients would not be able to grow at home. Medcan U hopes to put the Timmons Act before the Texas Legislature this year.



Timmons medicates.



ONE-HANDED HIGH

There are two conditions in which smoking pot can be a hideous ordeal: when you're stuck in a howling wind or when you only have one hand available.

Not anymore. Reach for the Vape-or-Smoke. It's the world's first portable herbal extraction and smoking device, and allows users to choose between

smoking or vaporizing. With practice, a Vape-or-Smoke user can even do both. It's great for outdoor activities like skiing, climbing, hiking, camping, and mountain biking. Plus, its one-handed operation makes the Vape-or-Smoke ideal for people with arthritis, multiple sclerosis and similar disabilities. Visit vaporsmoke.com.

THE ART OF POT

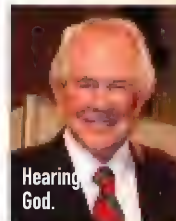
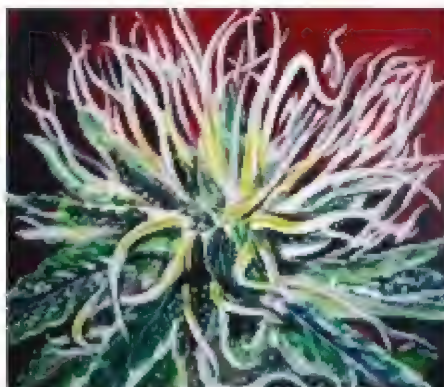
San Francisco Bay-area artist Monika Lea Jones is a muralist who works with community groups and proudly provides visuals for the cannabis movement. She studied botanical illustration and field sketching at the University of Santa Cruz, which led her to recreate the glory of ganja on canvas. Monika says she strives to “illuminate the modern landscape that rests upon primordial nature of forces.”

Wow, that's deep! All we can say is that we know great art when we see it.

To view more of her cannabis art, visit monikaleajones.com.



Artist Jones



Hearing God.

PAT'S 420 CLUB

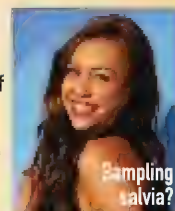
Televangelist Pat Robertson, host of *The 700 Club*, has predicted that God would punish Florida with hurricanes after Disneyworld promoted “Gay Days.” He's blasted feminism because it “encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism, and become lesbians.” And Haiti's earthquakes? They were the result of a pact made with the devil two centuries ago.

Apparently, God is one vengeful Dude. But just before the holidays, Pat told his TV audience: “We're locking people up that take a couple puffs of marijuana... We've got a take a look at what we're considering crimes. I'm not exactly for the use of drugs—don't get me wrong—but I just believe that criminalizing of marijuana, criminalizing possession of a few ounces of pot is costing us a fortune and ruining young people.”

Wow! If God is pissed about this, too, politicians and law enforcement had better start watching their backs.

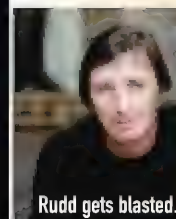
HIGHLY MILEY

Pop star Miley Cyrus, the international icon of the hit TV/movie franchise *Hannah Montana*, knows how to use a bong. That was clear



Sampling salvia?

after a video was released showing her operating a tall waterpipe with prowess. But Miley's peeps insisted that it wasn't weed in her bowl; it was Salvia divinorum, a natural herb that produces psychedelic effects. Some doubted the spin believing her handlers would prefer news reports of Miley doing a legal drug, rather than pot. It still didn't stop the media from running breathless stories like “Miley's Cry for Help”—which, of course, knocked that trivial clash between North and South Korea off the front pages.



Rudd gets blasted.

OVERSTATEMENT OF THE YEAR

In New Zealand, AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd was convicted of possession after his boat was searched in October and cops found about an ounce of pot. His lawyer argued for dismissal, but the community magistrate chastised him thusly: “You were blindly ignoring the law. You have been playing Russian roulette.” Rudd was fined \$250 (NZ) plus \$133 in court costs.



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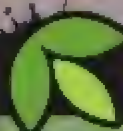


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The biggest year for the Cup yet, lines were long and the fumes were strong, but the sun was out and everyone got stoned.



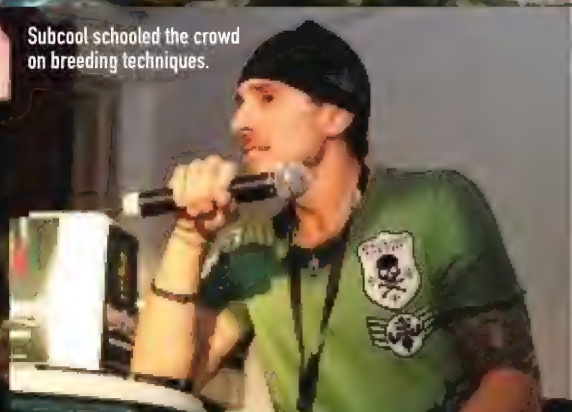
The Delta-9 Labs crew at your service.



Supreme Beans doled out the dank.



All the lovely ladies use a Vape-or-Smoke.



Subcool schooled the crowd on breeding techniques.



The Green House's Strain Hunters India RVD scored a big hit with crowds.

BIZARRE BAZAAR

Buds, bong and blazing at the 23rd Annual Cannabis Cup Expo. By Natasha Lewin

The forecast for the annual HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup Expo is *hazy*. For the past four years, it's been held at the PowerZone, and, if anything, the Cup crowd works overtime to ensure that the 5,000-plus-capacity club is suffused with stoner smoke. Usually, this gigantic nightclub, located in Amsterdam's Oost district, pumps out *untz-y* beats for hordes of sweaty patrons. But for five days over Thanksgiving week, HIGH TIMES transforms the warehouse hotspot into a fabulous fair for tokers and growers alike, hosting over 40 vendors and 3,000 judges for the Cannabis Cup.

The PowerZone is somewhat hidden behind a nondescript Dutch strip mall, but Cup judges had little trouble finding the Expo. Dank-smelling clouds emanating from the club's front doors were the tip-off—as well as the freshly spray-painted Cup banners, created by the legendary graffiti writer Vulcan, that hung on the gates outside.

Inside, the Expo was packed with marijuana merchants. Essential VAAAPP had its Glass on Glass Eclipse Vape20 filled with hash oil, ready to get you rocked as soon as you arrived. Since you've just entered a seed vortex, any-

thing you need for that garden of yours was available through outfits like Finest Medicinal Seeds and Kiwi Seeds. And Atami had everything you could want to make sure your plants grow healthy and strong.

Around the corner, Supreme Beans was packing their new glass bong, the Hitman, twisting hundreds of stoner judges with their tornado technology. Don and Aaron of DNA Genetics pleased the crowds with a four-foot Volcano bag bulging with vapor from their prized Kosher Kush (blessed by a rabbi). Derry and the gang from Barney's Farm showed off the eventual winner of Best Product, Barney's Bud Scope, which allowed judges to scrutinize the perfection of their Cup-winning *sativa*, Tangerine Dream. Across the way, Grassroots California and CMAZ Glass were selling HIGH TIMES 23rd Cannabis Cup hats like spacecakes—complete with stash pockets and monogrammed stitching.

The past year was a groundbreaking one for sleek pipes and space-age technology in the wide world of weed. Mojo Trading Limited promised a cleaner hit with easier delivery by using their Journey Pipe. For the minimalist, the Digger One-Hitter is a grinder *and* a bat. Vape-or-Smoke's amazing



Don and Aaron of DNA Genetics pose with the good people from Sheldon Black.

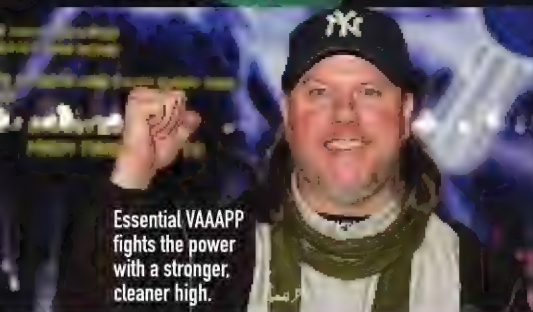


Franco from Green House shows off his rolling skills.

The Eject-a-Bowl makes people happy.



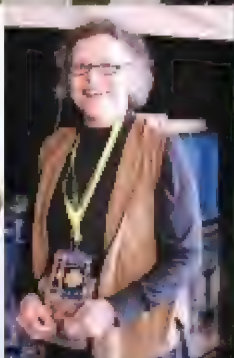
Graftiti artist Vulcan peeps a nug with The Harvestmen's Harvestscope.



Essential VAAAPP fights the power with a stronger, cleaner high.



Mila's Perfect Screen and Miss Mila herself.



Prix D'Ami, Mellow Yellow and The Noon killed it this year with their amazing nug.



Glass Gripper and Digger One-Hitter team up.



Adam from T.H. Seeds strikes a pose with Hoodlamb's new Sea Shepherd jacket.



The faces behind CONES!



The sleek and sexy Mountain High 00 Boxes.



Derry from Barney's Farm gives a judge a peek through their Best Product, the Barney's Bud Scope.



The incredible Journey pipe.

two-pipes-in-one combo is weather-resistant and totally discreet. The Eject-a-Bowl pipe allows smokers a clean hit after every use, while PHIT's revolutionary HI-Lighter heats your ganja via the power of a battery and quartz stone, resulting in butane-free inhalations.

The Pollinator Company scored with Mila's Perfect Screen, a handy pipe accessory to keep that nasty ash out of your mouth. Vapir had a packed booth of potheads trying out their NO₂ Vaporizer. The Harvestmen, newcomers to the Cup, offered intimate pot peeks through their fancy Harvestscope. For the clumsy, the Glass Gripper promised to keep your bong safe and sound from stoner slip-ups.

Advanced Nutrients went *big* this year, offering Expo attendees at their booth crash grow classes hosted by cultivation guru Erik Biksa. Prospective buyers were wowed by his demonstration of the Stealth Grow LED, as well as their super-cool Trim Reaper and the pH Perfect Nutrient System—a well-balanced, bigger-yielding fibering system aimed at crop-feeding your plants their favorite meal all the time.

Mountain High was busy selling Snoop Dogg's own rolling papers, pre-rolled paper Cones, Mountain High Scopes and, last but definitely not least, the stealth Mountain High 00 Box.

If judges got too couchlocked from smoking The Noon's highly coveted Sleaze, Prix D'Ami's buzzing S-5 Haze, or Mellow Yellow's strong *sativa* S-5 OD, Arjan and the folks from Green House offered sofas where the high and weary could view their smash-hit DVD, *Strain Hunters: India*, in grow-HD TV. Or they could lie back on the cushy black leather couches provided by CoffeeShop Travel, the official HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup travel agent, who gladly signed up eager attendees for next year's Cup.

Delta-9 Labs' Simpson Kush Vapor Tent was set up for the singular purpose of getting patrons as high as possible. Chills and Thrills were responsible for the laughing fits caused by their fabulous Magic Mushroom Truffles (still legal in Amsterdam). And at the Hemp Hoodlamb booth, I bought my first-ever Hoodlamb coat from Adam, Terry and Doug, just in time for the harsh New York winter. (I bought my second-ever Hoodlamb at their local store, Hemp Works.)



These two cuties are working it behind the booth at T.H. Seeds.

Yours truly looking pleasantly fried.

The revolutionary HI-Lighter from PHIT.

God bless the tripping power of Magic Truffles.

Sensi Seeds, some of the nicest folks at the Cup.

Soma shows off his Sacred Seeds stash.

Grassroots and CMAZ hang tough.

Mavericks of Marijuana: Arjan from Green House and Derry from Barney's toast a successful Cup.

Attitude Seed Bank beauties.

The gorgeous girls of Resin Seeds.

The Harvestmen representative.

The folks at Advanced Nutrients answer all your questions.

The Expo is the seed store you've always dreamed of. Resin Seeds and the two beauties working their booth sold Cannatonic seeds by the bushel. The widely popular Attitude Seed Bank hosted infamous breeders and HT contributors Subcool and Mz. Jill. Hortilab's Starberry flew off the shelves. Positronics and Bio Bizz promoted their successful Starter Pack and watched their Claustrium seeds sell out. Soma at Soma Sacred Seeds signed his best-selling book, *Organic Marijuana Soma Style*, for ganja growers and cannabis collectors alike. Simon and the fellas from Serious Seeds waxed philosophic about their top beans. Sensi Seeds was super-swamped with customers. And the boys at T.H. Seeds fielded questions about how best to grow their delectable second-place *indica*, Cold Creek Kush.

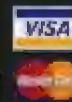
What a year for glass! ROOR won the Glass Cup with their amazing Ghost. DNA hit the mark with a hot new piece from Sheldon Black. The Moab by Green Devil Glass, with artwork by Hugo Kaagman, was as indescribably detailed as it

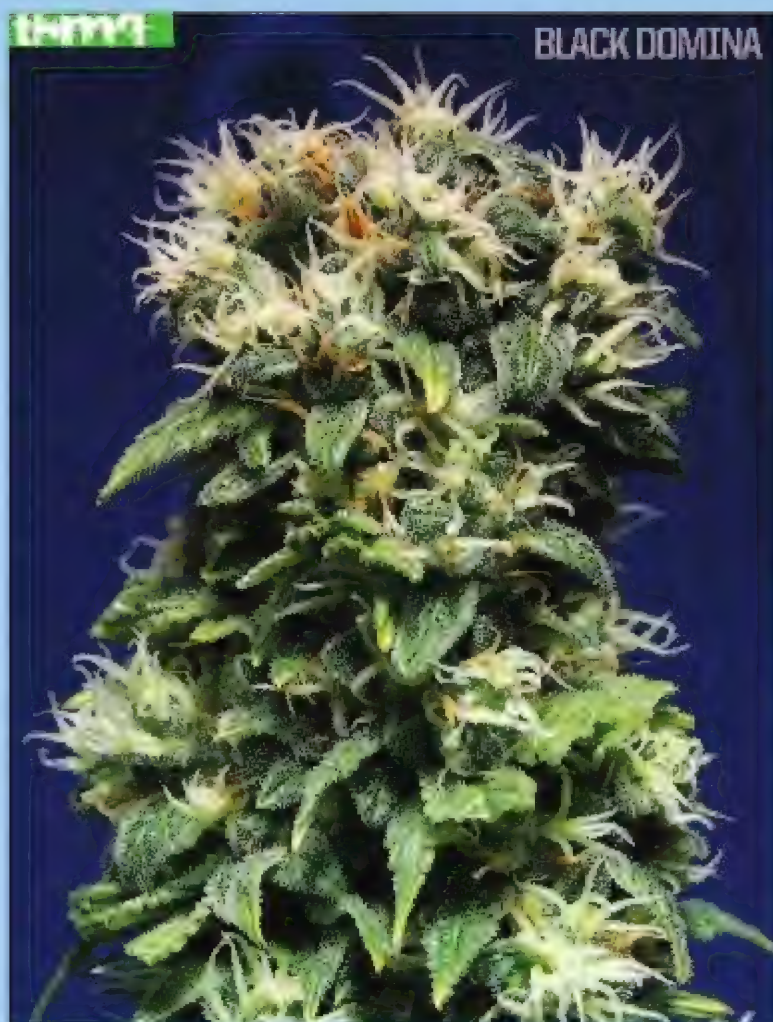
was huge. Percolated showed off two positively unreal specimens of artistry, Brandon Martin and Toro Micro—a steampunk work of genius. The Cali Connection killed it with their Klingon. And Dragon Bong and Earth Spirit were a welcome addition with their spectacular Dragon Vap and ethereal Dragon Bong.

Sure, you could shop for hours, but if you needed a rest, upstairs were Q&As with HT celebs Bobby Black, Miss HT 2010 Brittany Wagoner, and the sexy stoner starlet Vaporella. Not to mention cultivation mentors like Green House's Arjan, the DNA partners, Soma Sacred Seeds' own Soma, Advanced Nutrients' Erik Biksa, T.H. Seeds' Adam, breeder Subcool and Hortilab, who gave their own sensi seminars.

If you haven't figured it out already, there's something for everyone at the HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup Expo. When Amsterdam calls, you answer. Don't miss out next year!

Special thanks to all our vendors, sponsors and judges! 🌿

[illegible]



MARKET ANALYSIS

Kush hung onto the top pot spot, finishing April as the most submitted strain—and after a \$52 drop last month, Kush's average price was up \$23. Conversely, Diesel and Haze both finished below their previous month's average (Diesel, -\$26; Haze, -\$16), while Blueberry returned to the top five for the first time since January. The top five submitted strains (with average price) were Kush (\$371), Haze (\$376), Diesel (\$367), Purps (\$425) and Blueberry (\$293).

Index Watch: While the Kind Index finished above its previous month's average (+\$18), the Mids and Schwag indices finished below both their previous-month and year-to-date averages, with the Schwag Index experiencing the largest drop from March (-\$33). The US Price Index essentially held steady.

Trans-High Market Quotations (THMQ) reports pot prices by the ounce, strain and location. To submit prices, go to the THMQ link at hightimes.com.

CURRENT US PRICE INDEX: **\$352** (last month: \$355; YTD: \$355)

CURRENT KIND INDEX (\$350+ PER OZ): **\$423** (\$405, \$419)

CURRENT MIDS INDEX (\$150-\$349 PER OZ): **\$264** (\$275, \$273)

CURRENT SCHWAG INDEX (\$1-\$149 PER OZ): **\$97** (\$130, \$112)

AK-47 - \$500

Tuscaloosa, ALABAMA

"Doesn't taste the best, but it knocks you on your ass"

Indoor - \$220

Burlington, VERMONT

"Very nice, light, hairy buds with moderate smell and a very strong, stony high. Not my favorite because it gets you a little cloudy-headed. It's great for getting super-stoned and sitting around on the couch, but not for going to work."

Blue Dream - \$350

Baltimore, MARYLAND

"I got locked up last week, and four cops kept going on and on about how it was the best shit they'd ever seen, smelt or confiscated. They were passing it around like kids in a candy store."

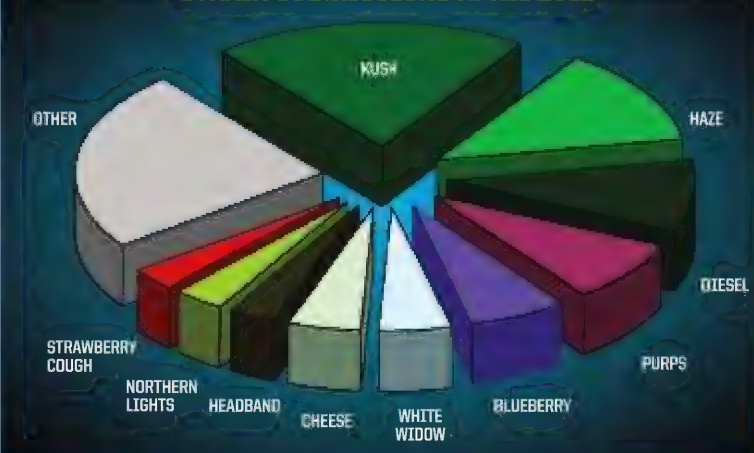
Strawberry Diesel - £250

London, ENGLAND

"A mind-blowing, full-body stone that's just rocking my world. What a sublime flavour—and those crystal-covered buds are as beautiful to look at as they are to smoke. Just amazing!"

STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
ALABAMA	Tuscaloosa	Blue Dream Granddaddy Purps AK-47	\$600 \$550 \$500
ARIZONA	Phoenix	Bubba Kush	\$250
ARKANSAS	Paron	White Widow	\$200
CALIFORNIA	Sacramento	Cheese	\$250
COLORADO	Colorado Springs	OG Kush White Widow Super Lemon Haze	\$325 \$350 \$400
CONNECTICUT	Enfield	G-13 Cheese	\$450 \$400
IDAHO	Boise	Blue Haze	\$275
KENTUCKY	Louisville	Blue Dream	\$400
LOUISIANA	New Orleans	Orange Crush OG Kush	\$480 \$480
MARYLAND	Baltimore	Silver Haze Blue Dream	\$350 \$350
MASSACHUSETTS	Boston Cape Cod	Headband Alaskan Thunderfuck Granddaddy Purps	\$425 \$330 \$360
MICHIGAN	Detroit Grand Rapids	Sour Diesel Apollo 13 Bubble Hash	\$500 \$800
MONTANA	Billings Helena	Blueberry Headband Chernobyl	\$250 \$250 \$250
NEVADA	Las Vegas	Bubba Kush	\$300
NEW JERSEY	Lakewood	Headband OG Kush Granddaddy Purple	\$375 \$400 \$440
NEW YORK	New York Queens	Haze Super Lemon Haze Pineapple Express	\$380 \$450 \$420
OHIO	Cleveland	Bubba Kush Northern Lights Sensi Star	\$350 \$400 \$450
OREGON	Eagle Creek	G-13 Kush	\$280 \$300
SOUTH CAROLINA	Columbia Greenville	Super Lemon Haze Cross-Eyed Kush	\$400 \$560
VERMONT	Burlington	Indoor Diesel	\$220 \$400
VIRGINIA	Richmond Rockingham County	Warlock Strawberry Cough Blue Dream	\$400 \$380 \$390
WASHINGTON	Yakima	Trainwreck Lemon Kush	\$250 \$300
WEST VIRGINIA	Huntington	Sweet Tooth	\$400
INTERNATIONAL (prices in Canadian dollars or British pounds)			
CANADA	Amherstburg	Kryptonite Kush Blueberry Kush	C\$210 C\$240
ENGLAND	London	Strawberry Diesel	£250

STRAIN SUBMISSIONS-APRIL 2011



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HIP-HOP AND HIGH TIMES FOREVER

HIGH TIMES' relationship with hip-hop has been a long and historic one, from Steve Hager's groundbreaking 1984 book *Hip Hop: The Illustrated History of Break Dancing, Rap Music and Graffiti*, to HT's cover features on then-newcomers Cypress Hill and Redman back in the early '90s. So it's fitting that this year's Cannabis Cup was a tribute to the legends of the genre. Spanning three generations of hip-hop, the performers at the 23rd Annual HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup were selected not merely for their creative contributions to the counterculture, but also for their discerning talents in identifying the best weed in the world. **By Zoot Simms**

Kid Cudi passes the chronic.

"There was a sign that read 'Devin the Dude!'" Devin laughs, recalling his 6 a.m. arrival at the Schiphol airport in Amsterdam en route to his first-ever Cannabis Cup. "I went straight to the Green House and, within 20 minutes, I was almost *too high*—but I knew that was just the start of a long day of enjoying different strains of 'coughee beans.' Meeting Coke la Rock later that day was prime for me: He's considered one of the first to ever rock the mic," Devin adds, speaking of this year's Counterculture Hall of Fame inductee. "He knows the raw essence of the origin of rap."

Other first-generation pioneers in attendance were Chief Rocker Busy Bee and Grand Wizzard Theodore, both known for their memorable performances in the cult hip-hop film *Wild Style*. Busy served as master of ceremonies for the Awards Show, while Theodore ably provided the musical backdrop.

Traditionally, with the privilege of being invited to perform at the Cup comes great responsibility. Performers are also celebrity judges and must use every available faculty to evaluate each entry's pros and cons. It's not uncommon for first-time judges to underestimate the demands of such a task. "I got up the seemingly endless flight of steps and entered a room with bookshelves lined with jars," says Chace Infinite, recalling his arrival at the secret testing facility dubbed "The Temple." Chace, one-half of the Los Angeles rap duo Self Scientific, is no stranger to connoisseur-grade weed: "It was a little overwhelming at first, but the weed scientist in me took over and I spent the next

two hours testing almost all the jars." The Temple came equipped with every testing apparatus imaginable, from glassware and papers to a high-powered microscope with a flat-screen display for studying trichome formations.

"It was a lot of work—but the best kind of work," jokes New Orleans rapper Curren\$y. "It also gave me a chance to flex my tree knowledge."

Curren\$y was so meticulous about testing that his judging duties clearly trumped anything else planned for the week—including his performance. While still in his dressing room, mere minutes before he was scheduled to hit the stage, he and HT editor Danny Danko excitedly debated the merits of certain *indica* strains. Curren\$y had several interesting techniques to identify potency, including one that he referred to as the "face itch." Curren\$y explains: "You want to smoke something that makes you feel like you're getting a bunch of little, tingly freckles under your eyes. A good hash will give you that, too—that's when you know you have a winner."

With so much smoke in the air, the hardest part for the performers was trying to keep the crowds cognizant and focused on making it through the event. The energy level for the Cup was perfectly established by the dynamic opening-night set from Cypress Hill founder and world-champion turntablist DJ Muggs. He effortlessly took a packed room of stoned zombies and dropped his needle like a shot of adrenalin to move the crowd. "We rocked the opening-night party at the Melkweg and tore that shit down!"



Busy Bee and Coke la Rock



Devin the Dude



Cypress Hill's
DJ Muggs



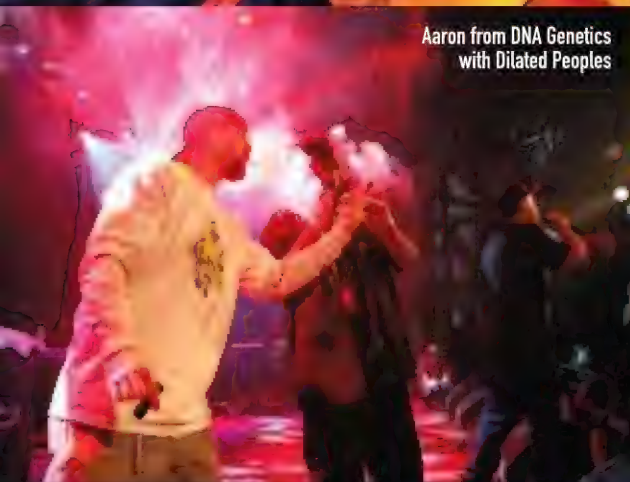
Curren\$y



Kid Cudi



Rob Quest



Aaron from DNA Genetics
with Dilated Peoples



Coke la Rock, Grand Wizzard Theodore and Busy Bee



Del tha Funky
Homosapien

Muggs proclaims, adding with satisfaction: "Another great Cannabis Cup!" With his behind-the-back and under-the-leg trickery, he prepped the crowd for the person who would turn out to be the Cup's musical headliner, Cleveland vocalist Kid Cudi.

Meanwhile, back in Cudi's overcrowded (and over-clouded) dressing room, some informal judging was going down. Soma, Arjan from the Green House and Derry from Barney's had personally bestowed their best product upon the singer/rapper for his inspection. Cudi, a huge marijuana enthusiast, was clearly in his element. "I can't wait for someone to name weed after me—then I can officially die!" he laughed.

A few joints later, Cudi hit the stage and the whole place was electric. As his latest single, "Marijuana," came on, Cudi scurried to pass out a dozen or so joints to the packed front row and urged everyone to "light something up!" Hollywood A-lister Shia LaBeouf was on hand filming with his vintage 8mm camera, getting footage for a short film and music video that he's rumored to be working on with Cudi. As a finale, and in true rock-star fashion, Cudi shot into the swarming crowd while performing his No. 1 hit, "Day 'n' Nite," feverishly emptying his glass jar of Cannabis Cup entries into the vibrant sea of outstretched hands.

The excitement carried over into the next night, with Oakland hip-hop favorite Del tha Funky Homosapien using the Cup as an excuse to make his first

voyage to Amsterdam in 12 years. (He was busted for accidentally bringing a small amount of hash through customs on his last journey.) "The level of appreciation of music that the people had at the event was dope," Del offers. Given the heavy hip-hop presence, this year's event became a weed reunion of sorts for many artists who hadn't been together—especially in one room—for years.

Unfortunately, some artists weren't able to participate in the judging. "We didn't get to partake in all the festivities because we were either battling jet-lag or a cold," laments DJ Rhettmatic of the world-famous Beat Junkies DJ crew. Beat Junkie member DJ Babu had the same experience: "I'd been on tour the previous week, and when I arrived in Amsterdam, I got really sick—all while I'm missing the best Cup ever." The good news is that he did manage to make it for his performance Wednesday night at DNA's Hot Box Party with fellow LA hip-hop legends Dilated Peoples. It was an exciting show, and luckily for Babu, the copious amounts of secondhand smoke wafting in his direction proved to have some medicinal benefits.

"If we thought it was going to be this much fun, we wouldn't have waited 23 years to hold the Hip-Hop Cup," announced event founder Steve Hager at the Awards Show's closing ceremonies. Gathering some of the best DJs and rappers from all over the US and the best marijuana strains from all over the planet was a great idea that will forever be enshrined in both cannabis and hip-hop history. ✨



KEEP ON THE GRASS

Dead Meadow plow headfirst into heady concepts. By John Payne

Straight outta Washington, DC, veteran psych-thud kingpins Dead Meadow have been carving out their own exceedingly heavy slice of time, space and brontosaurus beats for many years—a stance and style far removed from the band members' roots in punk rock and hardcore.

"It was a bit of reaction against what was going on in DC at the time," says guitarist-singer Jason Simon. "We all came up in the punk-rock scene with Fugazi and the Dischord label there. That was all great stuff, but you reach a point when there's just so many bands doing that. We wanted to get back to what we loved when we were 13 or 14, classic heavy stuff that just blew our minds and took you on a *journey*."

Always looking to the past to go *way* forward, the band (which includes Stephen McCarty on drums and Steve Kille on bass and sitar) took its cues from hairy old Led Zep, Sabbath, Deep Purple, Iron Butterfly and all that, dishing out distinctly dirty, nasty, slamming swirls of brain-squashing, thick-ass-fuzzy rifferini and Eastern-mode droning 12-string blues that evoke the arcane rituals of an obscure Upper Volta tribe converting to Druidism down in deepest, darkest Papua, New Guinea. In

other words, if it's a psychedelic atmosphere you crave, Dead Meadow's lushly langorous, hashy haze will surely float your little mind.

The band's *Three Kings* CD/DVD (Xemu) includes live recordings plus a few new studio songs, and it interpolates the action with a very trippy film that tells a kind of Lynchian/Jodorowskyan fantasy that, as you might expect, is seriously open to interpretation. Much like the band itself, which doesn't mind being called "psychedelic" as long as the term is used correctly.

"We just try to make stuff that we would enjoy and that gets us excited," Simon opines. "It's really cool that the shows seem to pull a pretty eclectic group of people out—people coming from the heavy stoner-rock scene, people from more indie-rock worlds, from the '70s scene ... just record collectors coming out from the basement."

The LA-based band has evolved only slightly from the gargantuan walls of distorted riff 'n' sludge and swirling atmospheric effects of their initial releases, yet DM's newfound melodic splendor and painterly poise still comes complete with a taut muscularity that slaps the band's dreamily droll tales of fantasy wide awake. Dead Meadow

build their castles in the air *and* on the ground, preaching the word via one consistently intense stash of non-brain-damaged head medicine.

Dead Meadow are a *genuinely* psychedelic band, you might say.

"I can dig that, definitely," Simon agrees. "Anything that has a lot of levels to it is probably good to get stoned to, you know? I've smoked a lot of weed over the years, so I feel like that's just a part of getting our kind of musical feel ... or getting into things that I would definitely appreciate in a stoned sort of mind. I was definitely high last time we left California on tour, and it was so nice not to be concerned about whether I'm gonna be arrested for having pot on me. It just seems so insane to me that everywhere isn't like California, where it's: 'What's the big deal?' I can't wait for this country to catch up with what the people want and how things should be."

So where are Dead Meadow going, and what will they find when they get there?

Simon says, "We're just keeping on, man. It's all just a journey, like: 'Oh! We're getting close to something.' I guess if you ever get there, you just stop. I don't know if you ever *want* to get there." ✨

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Ken Boothe (center) in his natural state, hanging out at home with his brethren.

EVERYTHING I OWN

An afternoon with rocksteady legend Ken Boothe. By Chris Simunek

I wasn't in Ken Boothe's presence for more than five minutes before I came to the conclusion that he was one of the coolest guys ever. For starters, he was dressed like a star, wearing a white silk shirt covered with a blue and gold pattern, black silk pants and white leather loafers. His clothes actually matched his house—a mansion, really—which was painted blue and white right down to the alternating colors of the bricks in his driveway. I suspect it's no coincidence that Boothe's first album, *Mr. Rock Steady*, recorded in 1968 when he was just 17, has one of those great silk-screened Studio One covers and is also blue and white.

Kingston, Jamaica, is a spur-of-the-moment kind of place, so when the offer came up, I jumped at the opportunity to go visit the rocksteady superstar responsible for such classics as "The Train Is Coming," backed by the Wailers, and Ken's biggest hit, his ethereal 1974 rendering of the Bread tune "Everything I Own."

The other thing about Ken is, although he wears his hair short, he is Rasta to the bone. Surrounded by his chalice-smoking brethren ("chalice" being the sacramental Rasta water pipe), I did my best to comprehend the meandering, patois-thick discussion that touched on subjects both mystical and immediate. We talked about Ethiopia's forgotten and oft-stolen contributions to history; about how Emperor Haile Selassie I, when asked about the moon landing in 1969, said that as far as he could see, the Tower of Babel had just been rebuilt; and about how any invention of

man is really an attempt to re-create nature. I asked Ken how he started out in the music business, and he told me how he used to love listening to his mother singing gospel songs while she was doing the laundry, and of the time he heard Stranger Cole singing one day while he was walking through Trench Town, and how it was really Stranger who gave him his start and introduced him to Duke Reid, the producer.

Ken's house is a bit like a rocksteady Grace-land, with framed photos on the walls and awards on the shelves polished to a shine. He took us for a tour, pointing out a picture of him with the Skatalites on their first trip to England in the '60s, various letters from former prime ministers like Norman Manley, Edward Seaga and P.J. Patterson congratulating him on receiving the Jamaican Order of Distinction, and a plaque declaring him "The World's Greatest Grandfather."

Ken's carport is dedicated to Emperor Haile Selassie I, with photos of Jah on his throne in flowing robes and crown next to his queen. Ken stressed the importance of the queen in the emperor's life, "because a man who walks with a woman and falls, there will be someone there to pick him up, but a man who falls alone, people will just pass him by." Not that Jah fell a lot, but you have to figure that Ken Boothe—the "voice of choice," who made his name singing love songs in a plaintive, pleading style—is going to see the romantic angle in everything.

Ken pointed to a framed speech on the wall and

asked me if I knew who Willie Lynch was. I didn't, but Lynch had apparently given this speech in Virginia back in the slave days, when he advised his listeners that the best way to control slaves was not through violence, but by pitting them against one another. "Willie Lynch was one of the wickedest men who ever lived," Ken said, "because he taught how to enslave the black man without whips and chains. He taught them the secret of enslaving the black man's mind—arguing that if you beat a man, he doesn't want to work, but if you enslave his mind, he'll work all day and be happy about it."

When the tour was finished, a group of us sat in Ken's living room smoking herb. For all the comforts of his magnificent home, Ken dwelled upon the importance of keeping one's ego in check.

"I love clothes, right? I love to tidy," he said. "Clothes is not all—you have to have a structure to put clothes on. Some man, he sing and he's big, he have attitude—sometimes he has to realize that he's just a man. Because there are a lot of entertainers that I really fell for ... spiritually, you know? But they don't realize that death can come to any man. They're so much into themselves—like a god, like they superior. And then you hear about in the paper: him passed away. You're going like, 'No, it can't happen to you.' So when you see a man with a lot of things, him just like you, him have to go to toilet in the morning, rich or poor—that's why I pray. So we need to pray and ask God if we can resist that. We is only human. We're only human! We're only human." ✨

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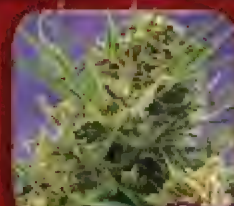
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HEART OF DARKNESS

Savages

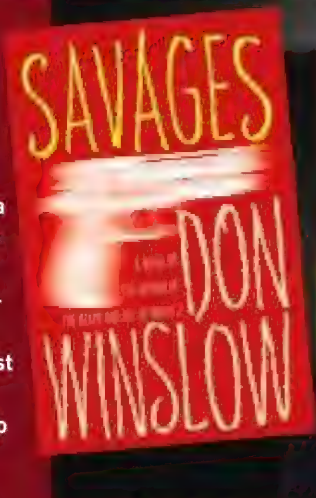
Don Winslow

(Simon & Schuster)



When California voters failed to pass Proposition 19 this past November, which would have legalized marijuana for all adults over 21, presumably nobody applauded those results louder than the Mexican drug cartels. As primary exporters of the low-grade "Mexi-schwag" that's still the low-cost cannabis of choice for many Americans, the cartels reportedly earn up to 40 percent of their profits from the black-market marijuana trade—and as anyone who lives along the border (on either side) knows, those guys remain deadly serious about protecting their market share.

In his gripping, fast-paced but also deeply insightful novel, *Savages*, veteran crime noir author Don Winslow finds these same cartels in the midst of expanding their role as suppliers by muscling into the distribution chain, in this case in Southern California. After carefully



Author Don Winslow investigates the dark side of the marijuana industry.



studying the methods employed by Uncle Sam's top corporate capitalists, the cartels' business advisors realize that "vertical integration" of the industry is essential for improving their bottom line, and so they determine to start dealing as well.

True to its name, the novel never stops asking who are the *real savages*: these murderous criminal gangs, or the Wall Street tycoons they've learned to imitate? Meanwhile, long-time friends and business partners Ben and Chon concentrate on producing the highest-quality hydro in SoCal and keeping out of trouble, until word of mouth about their legendary strains reaches all the way to the Baja cartel. What results is

a showdown between small-time growers and big-time killers so cinematic that Oliver Stone bought the rights to the book before it was even published. Winslow and Stone have already begun collaborating on the screenplay, but why wait for the movie? This is one savage journey worth taking right now. —David Bienenstock

Wire

Red Barked Tree

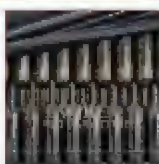
(Pink Flag)



Hardcore purist fans of veteran art-punk kingpins Wire harp on about how the band's first album, *Pink Flag*, a 21-song suite of raw aggression and a simultaneous oddly cool detachment, is the only *real* Wire album that anyone needs to hear. But Wire's core quartet of guitarist/singer Colin Newman, bassist/singer Graham Lewis, guitarist/noisemaker Bruce Gilbert and drummer Robert Grey (a.k.a. Robert Gotobed) changed direction following *Pink Flag*'s release, departing from punk's rigid format in favor of complexly structured and synth-effect-laden explorations that, while turning off the leather-jacket-and-mohawk set, almost single-handedly created the "post-punk" genre. The band has evolved in stages ever since, disbanding and regrouping sporadically to issue records further exploring electronics and a rock-bound sound-art or, as in their most recent phase, a brutal guitar/bass/drums minimalism.

Wire's new *Red Barked Tree* dovetails neatly with the varied range of their early punkish-unto-artie endeavors, while pulling back from the violence of their last three albums. There's a wispy, gazing-grimly-at-the-setting-sun vibe to this new Wire mode: Punky pop tunes are juxtaposed with more ominous and artily veneered shades of song, such as the opening "Please Take" ("Please take your knife out of my back," Lewis sings calmly), whose (un)easy mid-tempo singsong guitar riffing rides Grey/Gotobed's classically simple drum thwack.

The album alternates between implied aggressive head-slaps and a sweetly melodic sourness. The title track finale is longish and just choo-choos on through the forest; it sounds like a misty day, and it's a train ride to who knows where? —John Payne



Trophy Scars

Darkness, Oh Hell

(self-released)



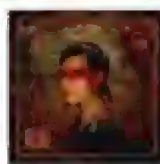
Morristown, NJ's Trophy Scars

have been in the trenches for eight years now, and during that time they've evolved from standard-issue screamo band to something of a post-hardcore Queen. *Darkness, Oh Hell*, their sixth release, finds the band mining influences ranging from Tom Waits (especially in the vocals and lyrics) to early Blood Brothers to skronking jazz. The EP takes its theme from *Twin Peaks*, David Lynch's groundbreaking television series of the early 1990s, and is startlingly evocative.

The opening track, "Sauvez-Moi de L'Enfer," with its haunting female vocals, sets the melancholy mood. Faintly, in the background, the screams that marked the band's earlier work can be heard ... and that's the last you'll hear them on this album, as lead singer Jerry Jones shifts between a menacing croon and a guttural, Waitsian growl. The bluesy stomp of the title track, "Darkness," showcases both voices nicely. "Trazadone" starts sweetly, but soon finds the band veering into Converge territory with some particularly nice guitar work. "Sad Stanley" conjures the tumbleweed-strewn streets of the Old West with its mournful, harmonica-heavy intro, and the closer, "Time in Heaven, Forever in Hell," finds the drummer proving his mettle with some insane, mathy time signatures that support a sweeping guitar-and-piano lament.

The musicianship, arrangements and production on this EP are flawless. The only real problem with Trophy Scars' latest release is that the band is more mature than I am: I keep going back to listen to the vanishing scream.

—Polly Watson



Bob Marley

and the Wailers

Live Forever

(Tuff Gong/Ume)



You wouldn't know it from listening to the life force that is Bob Marley on this two-CD set, but he was dying the night it was recorded. The gig at the Stanley Theater in Pittsburgh on September 23, 1980, was destined to be Marley's last; he'd depart from this realm the following May. Diagnosed with cancer in 1977, Marley had collapsed while jogging two days earlier, but in stoic showbiz tradition (perhaps the *only* part of such tradition the reggae star honored), he insisted that the show at the Stanley must go on, both for his ticket-bearing fans and his band in need of the payday.

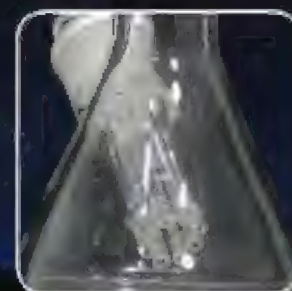
Here's Bob's last waltz, exhorting the crowd to "emancipate from mental slavery" in a stark, solo-acoustic "Redemption Song." His bullshit detector is clearly missing no batteries when he calls out "Here comes the con man" in "Crazy Baldhead." And when he scats maniacally in the same tune like a dreadlocked Ella Fitzgerald, one wonders how a man so on top of his game could be so close to checkout time.

In "Coming In From the Cold," Marley displays his open-hearted faith in Jah and human beings—the latter the same species who gifted him with a would-be assassin's bullet in '76. This tough-skinned optimism contrasted with the bleatings *du jour* of the Blank Generation, for whom alienation was a fashion accessory. There are many reasons that Bob Marley still matters, not least of which was his belief that universal love would eventually lead us out of Babylon. —Michael Simmons



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SERIOUS SILLINESS

Who would you rather offend? God or Glenn Beck? By Paul Krassner

Father Guido Sarducci,
Glenn Beck, and
Stephen Colbert create
laughter in different
ways.



Abbie Hoffman was one of the funniest individuals I ever met, but he was also one of the best organizers I've known—and, in fact, his charisma was fueled by his wit. However, even though we were close friends, there came a time when Abbie seriously chastised me.

"You're not a leader," he yelled, "you're a fuckin' social gadfly! You're not an organizer. You don't urge people to do things. You never make demands. That's what organizing is!"

"Hey, Abbie, you're right—but I never said I was a leader. I can't even organize my own fuckin' desk."

And now, over four decades later, the "Rally to Restore Sanity and Keep Fear Alive" revealed that Jon Stewart, like me, doesn't feel that it's his role to urge people what to do. He trusts them to make up their own minds.

Unlike Glenn Beck, who discouraged followers from bringing signs to his rally—wishing them to appear either respectable or good spellers—there were posters galore at the Sanity/Fear rally instigated by Stewart and his Comedy Central cohort, Stephen Colbert. Here are a few of my favorites: "Lemmings for Palin." "There's been so much teabagging going on, I almost wish I had a scrotum." "Think outside the Fox." "I masturbate and I vote." "Bedbugs for Fear." "7-11 was an inside job." "I believe in the separation of corporation and state." "Can't we all just smoke a bong?" "Legalize Pot." "Legalize Conan."

The *Washington Post* posed a rhetorical question: "Would visiting progressives of all ages actually take political marching orders from comedians?" But the only thing Stewart asked the audience to do was "no littering," explaining: "This Mall is a national icon."

However, Tony Bennett did utter a one-word command ("Vote!") as if it were the coda to his rendition of "America the Beautiful," which includes the lyric "God shed His grace on thee." But that was about as pious as things got—as

opposed to Beck's "Restoring Honor" rally, where the religious sanctimony was rampant.

At the Stewart/Colbert rally, Don Novello, playing his original *Saturday Night Live* character Father Guido Sarducci, delivered a satirical benediction. "What is the right religion?" he implored God. "When I come to the right one, give me a sign—swans fly by, use Your imagination Methodist? [Audience cheers] Cheering is not the sign. Episcopalian? Baptist? Roman Catholic? Any kind of Christian religion? Judaism? Islam? Both don't eat the same meat, but they don't get along—what's with that? Don't you think somebody could say to them, 'They don't eat pork, you don't eat pork—let's build on that ...'"

As Novello later told me, "I thought it was interesting: With my thing where I tried to hit all the religions, like this little message from God, I had in there the Mormons—you know, it was kind of touchy with Jews and Arabs, so I thought a clever way into it was, I'd say 'Mormonism,' and then I'd say, 'Okay, now's the time to send in the seagulls' ... but if seagulls suddenly appeared, probably some people would say, 'We're so close to the ocean, they just came from Baltimore, it's no big sign.'"

"So I'd say, 'Maybe a better sign would be to send Canadian geese. Or Canadian bacon.' People would say, 'It's bacon! Bacon!' Okay, no geese, no bacon. Speaking of no bacon—Islam. And then: Judaism. And then the line, 'They don't eat the same meat, why don't they get along? Can't we build on that?'"

"But they didn't want me to do the *Mormon* thing. Colbert said, 'Glenn Beck is a Mormon'—like they didn't want to offend *Glenn Beck*, he's a Mormon! I mean, the pope is Catholic, right? So that's how sensitive they were to not offend someone. I was impressed."

Needless to say, however, I wasn't quite as impressed by Colbert's little display of fear. ✨



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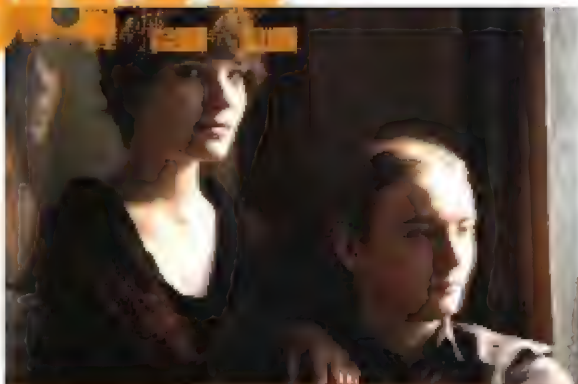
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HIGH TIMES UNSIGNED BAND OF THE MONTH THE WHISPERING TREE

Over the past six years, classically trained vocalist Eleanor Kleiner and French bassist Elie Brangbour have traveled the world on an adventure that began when the two met at the London Center of Contemporary Music in 2004.

Full of imagery and stories of the human condition, the Whispering Tree's songwriting is the backbone of their sound and has been heavily influenced by their travels abroad, which have taken them from South America to China.

It was during a solo trip to South America that Kleiner took part in an ancient, indigenous ritual and came up with the name, which represents strength and truth—two qualities omnipresent in their music.

How fitting, then, that after all their travels, the Whispering Tree have found a permanent home in New York City, taking root in Astoria, Queens, a neighborhood as ethnically diverse as it comes. Perhaps it's the way they've so subtly woven their international influence and classical training into their sound, at once distinct and honest, that makes them stand out amidst the other sounds of the city—and the world.

Earlier this spring, the Whispering Tree released their debut full-length album, *Go Call the Captain*, on Modern Vintage Recordings. For more information, audio samples and tour dates, check out hightimes.com/thewhisperingtree.

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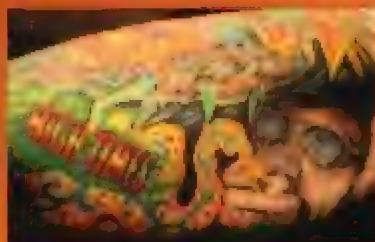
For the past 15 Novembers now, I've spent Thanksgiving not at home eating turkey with my family, like most people, but 3,600 miles away in a foreign country inhaling insane amounts of THC. But in all

those years, I've come to learn that the Cannabis Cup is about so much more than just weed and hash: It's about the adventure of exploring a vibrant, romantic city with a rich history and thriving nightlife. It's about the feeling of freedom and empowerment that you get from proudly ordering your herb from a menu at a counter instead of via some clandestine, coded conversation and reticent rendezvous. And most of all, it's about the relationships we forge with friends, fans and fellow stoners who either live and work in Amsterdam, or join us time and time again in our annual pilgrimage to the world's biggest and best pot party.

Stoners like Carl and Vicki Shaw, who after getting engaged on the floor of the Expo at 4:20 last year, returned again this November on their honeymoon. Of course, they weren't the only cannabis couple who became affianced last year; I also popped the question to my girl Vegas at the 22nd Cannabis Cup. This year, CS Travelers Joey and Karen got engaged at Amsterdam's famous Skinny Bridge, and our West Coast editor, Dave Bienenstock, proposed to fellow HT-er Elise McDonough next to the fountain in front of the American Hotel—the same place they'd shared their first kiss back in 2005.

There are also fans like Anthony "Mojo Man" Van Den Berg, who loves the Cannabis Cup so much that he had his entire arm tattooed with images of weed, logos of HIGH TIMES and his favorite coffeeshops—even a picture of yours truly smoking a joint! This year, Mojo Man graciously volunteered to chaperone a medical-marijuana patient (and first-time Cupgoer) named Matthew whom he'd never met, and who was nervous about coming on his own—a perfect demonstration of true stonerhood.

And then there are people like Sutton, a woman who came to the Cup for the first time this November for a very special reason. It seems that attending the Cup was a longtime dream of her college-age son, Keegan. He and his brother had already bought their judges' passes, but a few months later, Keegan suddenly and inexplicably died in his sleep. Heartbroken, Sutton decided that the best way to honor her son's memory would be to come in his place. This woman was no hip-



Left: Mojo Man's completed tattoo (2010); Below: Me and Mojo Man at Green House last November; Bottom: Newlyweds Vicki and Carl.



pie or pothead—in fact, she'd never smoked marijuana before in her life—but she felt she owed it to Keegan to see why

he'd wanted to come so badly. So, accompanied by her other son and his girlfriend, and with Keegan's ashes in her bag, Sutton had traveled to Amsterdam.

The HT staff was very moved by her story—so much so that we invited them all backstage, and I offered to say a few words about Keegan onstage at the Expo. So on Wednesday afternoon, after my "So You Wanna be in HIGH TIMES?" seminar and Miss HIGH TIMES interviews, I ended my time onstage by bringing Sutton up to tell her story.

"Being here, seeing how things are at this event and meeting all of you, I understand now why he wanted to come here," she said. "Thank you all for being so kind and welcoming!"

Then, right there onstage at the Expo, Sutton smoked her very first joint with me. Afterward, she hugged and thanked me, and her son welled up with emotion as I shook his hand. And another gentleman sitting in the back of the room reacted so emotionally to their story that he felt compelled to come over and tell me about himself and his own daughter, who were attending the Cup together for the very first time.

Regardless of what bands perform, what strains we smoke, or what coffeeshops and seed companies take home the trophies, the Cannabis Cup is always an amazing experience—a unique chance to interact with the cannabis community, to make new friends and reminisce with old ones. So I think it only appropriate that I take this opportunity to give thanks to the extended HIGH TIMES family—all of the people who, year in and year out, give it their all to make the Cup one of the coolest events on the planet. Without you, there'd be no Cannabis Cup.

See you next November. *

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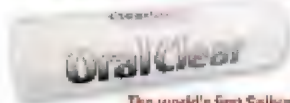


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BREEDING WEED FOR THE CANNABIS CUP

How new seed companies tackle the challenge. By Nico Escondido

For those of you wondering exactly who gets to enter the Cannabis Cup each year, as well as how one might go about doing so as a newcomer to the competition, please allow us this brief explanation.

One of the many goals of the Cup has always been to help proliferate the exquisite cannabis genetics that come from all over the planet to Amsterdam, the Mecca of the cannabis world. Because the contest is a public competition—meaning that anyone from anywhere is welcome to take part simply by buying a judge's pass—we at HIGH TIMES want to ensure that all of the strain varieties (but especially the winners) are readily available to the public for purchase and cultivation.

Thus, breeders entering the Cup as non-coffeeshop-affiliated contestants compete in the *Sativa* and *Indica* Cups. Some might argue that these two constitute the *real* Cannabis Cup, since they're not judged by the public, but rather by a panel of expert judges assembled by HIGH TIMES. These two Cups cannot be "bought" by savvy campaigning or expensive marketing (as some have argued is the case with the coffeeshop competition).

At the same time, we here at HIGH TIMES recognize that newcomers and small growers from around the globe want to come and flash their wares and compete in the world's foremost cannabis competition—and we definitely want to encourage that. We understand that not every breeder has a seed company, nor can they make their special variety readily available to the public overnight. So we have created—quite cleverly, we think—a provision that allows anyone breeding top-quality cannabis to come to Amsterdam and enter the Cup.

This provision is simple and fair: Any breeder coming to the Cannabis Cup wishing to enter may do so for the first time without having a seed company in

place to distribute their genetics. However, there is a grace period of exactly one year in which the entrant must form such a seed company and make his or her genetics available worldwide.

Now, the real problem with this system is, what if the newcomer wins—as has happened as recently as 2009, when HortiLab took home first place in the Sativa Cup? Growers around the world will want those genetics right away, especially the ones that hold high medicinal value and are needed in dispensaries for sick patients. The truth here is that is a real challenge in this process, but realizing that new seed companies are vital to the competition, and in many ways the life blood for the cause behind the Cup, there is no way we can exclude these breeders. Imagine if we had not allowed HortiLab to enter—the world may have been deprived of their excellent genetics forever!

Still, there are solutions. In fact, some of the newcomers who enter the Cup come prepared with a small run of seeds from their most recent batches and have many more on the way, to be made available only a few short months after the Cup ends. Also, setting up a seed company is relatively easy to do in this age of multinational third-party seed distributors, seed-bank shops and, of course, the Internet. Not to mention that, after winning a Cannabis Cup, the last thing in the world a new breeder wants is to *not* be able to defend their title and compete the following year—and to do so means they must be up and running with their own seed company, making their strains readily available to the world, by the time they register for the next Cup, which will happen less than a year later.

Certainly, it's not too long a time to wait for some of the world's most prized cannabis genetics.



Lush growrooms are tucked away in cities worldwide, supplying the Cup with winning weed and seeds.



A female bud will become a mother to a new hybrid strain.



A mature seed still inside its sticky, calyx pod.

BREEDERS' TERMINOLOGY

A Quick Reference

Genotype: The sum total of all genes from the parents of a given offspring; the complete genetic makeup of an organism in reference to its entire complex of traits.

Phenotype: The appearance and characteristics of a plant, which result from the interaction between the genotype and the growing environment.

Hybrid: Also known as a "cross," a hybrid is the offspring of two plants with differing genotypes. Hybrids are most often produced through human manipulation rather than nature.

Mother Plant: A female plant, grown large and bushy, whose ultimate purpose is to provide cuttings for clone production. Mother plants are kept in a perpetual vegetative state, with cuttings taken daily or weekly that will eventually become exact replicas of that mother plant, to be flowered either for smoking or seed production.

Male Plant: A plant that produces pollen. Male cannabis plants are generally taller and grow faster than their female counterparts. When male pollen lands on female flowers, it fertilizes the female plant, which begins to form seeds.

Hermaphrodite: A plant that produces both male and female sex organs (flowers and pollen sacs).

Selfing: The ability of one plant to produce seeds without being fertilized by another plant. This process takes place in plants that are hermaphroditic and can therefore self-pollinate. This can occur naturally (due to genetics or plant stress), or it can be forced upon plants by breeders via the use of chemical additives.



This male pre-flower will eventually supply the pollen for a new cross.



"Shoreline" from Devil's Harvest.
A 2011 Cup contender?

Devil's Harvest: A Closer Look

Last summer, HIGH TIMES reported from Amsterdam (as we do every year) for our Cannabis Cup preview. This is an exciting time when we send our cultivation pros overseas to get a sneak peek at the crops being grown in Amsterdam for the upcoming Cup. Not only do we get to pick up some new tips and tricks from the Dutch masters to pass on to our readers, but we can also assess the operations of our regular Cup contestants and compare them against the new players.

While there's never a shortage of growers wishing to enter the Cannabis Cup, the problem is that sometimes rookie breeders come to the Cup prematurely. Entering the Cup before they've developed their A-game might give breeders a good feel for the Cup and how it's run, but it can also end in disappointment. It's an almost overwhelming endeavor to walk in cold, with no prior experience, and hope to hoist a Cup at the end. At the same time, that initial experience and the connections made in their first year can go a long way toward turning some of these rookies into stars in the future. But others know that it may take years before their strains are truly ready to compete, and so they bide their time and prepare differently rather than rushing in.

It was apparent last summer that Devil's Harvest—poised to enter their first Cup and hoping to make a good run at it—is one seed company with the potential to bloom into a perennial contender. Founded circa 2006, Devil's Harvest is now a two-man operation run by Darragh, from Ireland, and Paul, a homegrown local. Together, they finally pushed Devil's Harvest

to the forefront and into its first-ever Cannabis Cup in 2010.

Their first entry, Kuchi, in the *Indica* Cup category, was a smart combination of OG Kush and Cheese. But the lineage is more genuine than may first appear, as they used the San Fernando Valley (SFV) Kush, the first and most original of the OG lines, crossed with an Exodus Cheese, which can only be found in the UK (and then only in clone form). The result was so spectacular that the guys from Devil's Harvest had to give it a go and see how they stacked up against the world's best. Although they narrowly missed placing this year, they already know—as do those around them—that it's just a matter of time before they pick up a Cup of their own.

Working on a variety of strains, Devil's Harvest puts a new spin on breeding when it comes to flavor, taking classic favorites and pushing them to innovative, sometimes experimental frontiers. Take, for example, their Strawberry Sour Diesel, or one of their newest favorites, Dazey Jones. It's a derivative of the California-born Casey Jones, a Trainwreck x Sour Diesel x Thai. Devil's Harvest took that and crossed it out with their Chemdaze strains, creating the Dazey.

Look for Dazey Jones to make an appearance at the Cup in the near future. In addition, the guys from Devil's Harvest are hoping to enter their version of a more obscure strain known as Shoreline, an "old-school roadkill Skunk," in 2011—as well as what they call John Doe, their Strawberry Sour Diesel crossed with a G-13 female. "We're searching for the real old genes. We will be the strain savers," Darragh proclaims. We're certainly looking forward to it—and to even more newcomers with the same type of passion.



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Step 2: Flower clones to receive male pollen



How Seeds Are Made

The most natural (and perhaps easiest) example of breeders creating seeds involves a male and female plant of the exact same genotype. In this optimal scenario, breeders choose a male and female that each possess all of the desired phenotypes they want. In most cases, the breeders are selecting from a large population of plants.

The breeders will first determine what traits (i.e., phenotypes) they want expressed in the offspring, such as color, odor, potency or height. It's important to remember that the phenotypes are simply *how* the characteristics of a given strain (or genotype) are expressed in a particular grow environment. The breeders will then try to match their male and female plants as best they can in the hopes that these traits will be dominantly expressed in the offspring.

At this stage, advanced breeders will use less guesswork and instead employ more proven scientific methods to deduce which traits are dominant versus recessive, thus giving them an idea about what percentage of the offspring will possess each desired trait. Using a mathematical tool known as the Punnett square, breeders can

literally map out the frequency at which these traits will appear in the offspring. To do this successfully, however, breeders will need to have worked extensively with a particular line in a consistent grow environment so that they can identify which traits are dominant and which are recessive in those particular genotypes. This can take several years to accomplish before the real process of selection and breeding even begins.

The selection process itself can take several cycles (i.e., a couple of years) to nail down. During this time, breeders will grow out dozens, if not hundreds, of seeds and closely examine every plant for the desired traits. The longer a breeder has worked with a strain (and thus the more variations they've seen), the better the chances they have at identifying and isolating those plants that are stable and true to the specific phenotype being sought.

It's also important for growers and consumers to understand that in this type of breeding, the offspring will never be 100 percent uniform. There will always be some variation when seeds are created naturally—i.e., using pollen from a male to fertilize a female. Once the

Step 3: Pollinated
buds produce
seeds. Harvest
them at the end
of flowering!



female is chosen, she is grown into a mother plant that can produce cuttings. The only way to ensure 100 percent identical offspring from a given mother is to turn the cuttings into clones. This procedure takes place over an extended period of time that can range anywhere from one month to nearly a year. After about six to eight months, most breeders choose a new mother plant to take clones from. It is possible to turn a clone from one mother into a new mother plant for clones, but doing so over a prolonged period will cause what's known as "genetic drift," whereby the offspring start to lose vigor and the desired phenotypes begin to falter.

Once a breeder has properly selected a stable mother and father plant, the real fun begins. For the plants, this means sex—and plant sex is quite literally the old story of the birds and the bees, except in this case the breeder is the one spreading the pollen from the male to the female. To do this, both the male and female plants must be a few weeks into the flowering stage. Generally, the males will be ready before the females, but once the female is two to three weeks into flowering and has developed tiny buds, she can be pollinated.

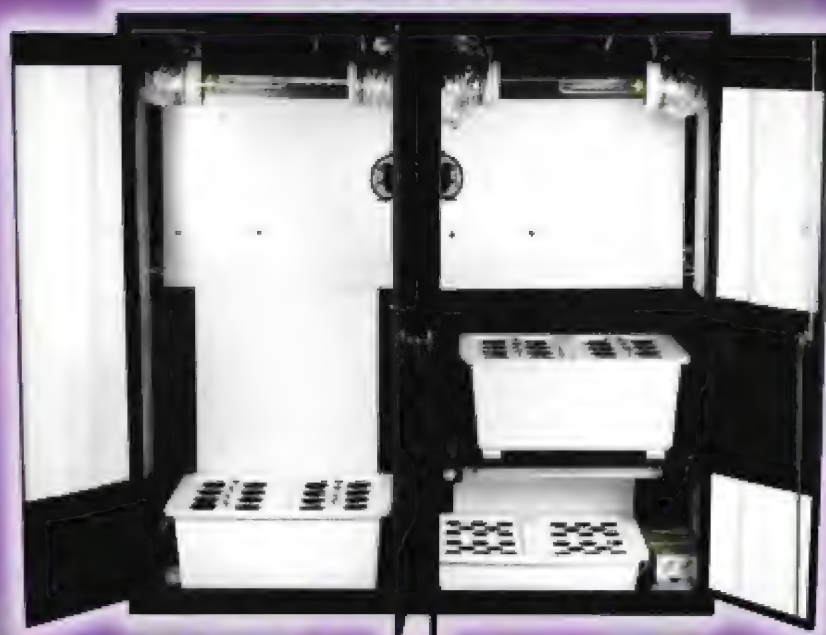
There are a number of ways that breeders can pollinate their female plants. Most breeders grow and flower plants of either sex in separate chambers. Once they've reach sexual maturity, the breeder can either manually pollinate the mother or move the male into her room and let nature take its course (sometimes with the aid of a fan or two). Some breeders collect the pollen from the male's pollen sacs in a small bag and then, using a brush, will literally paint it onto the female buds. Other breeders wait for the male's sacs to open naturally and then put him in the center of the room, or gently shake him over the females for a few days. The number of seeds that a breeder wants to produce will usually determine the method chosen. Obviously, larger amounts of pollen produce larger amounts of seeds—and as we all know, more seeds can only mean more growers, more plants and more buds. 🌿

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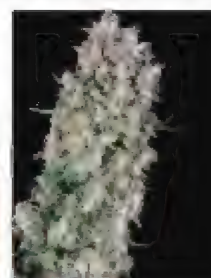
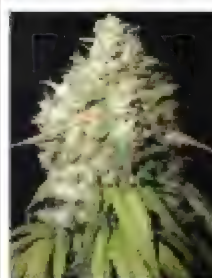


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A full moon over Amsterdam lights up the 23rd Cannabis Cup.

On awards night, the audience gets asked, "Who wants to be in HIGH TIMES?"



ROMANCING THE STONE

Each year, thousands descend upon Amsterdam for the annual HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup. The event attracts an international audience, but there are no ethnic or cultural barriers. A common language is spoken here—and as stoners know throughout the world, great weed needs no translation. By Dan Skye

In our modern society, it's difficult to fathom the monumental labor and sacrifice required to create a city like Amsterdam. This is a city that was built from the ground up—literally. Because, in the beginning, there was no ground; farmers and fishermen of the 12th century had to transform wet marshland and lakes before a settlement could be built. So they did what they had to do: They drained the swamps and built canals and dikes.

And those quaint, iconic windmills, the age-old symbols of Holland? They were instrumental in pumping the water back to the sea.

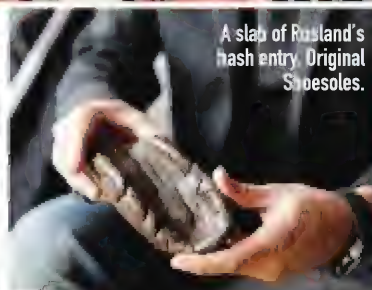
In time, farmland was created and Amsterdam, because of its sheltered harbor, became a major European port. As history progressed, Holland led the exploration of the New World, prospered with its global trading network, and at one point stood as Europe's financial center.

Amsterdam was one of the fortunate cities to survive World War II. When the Nazis invaded in 1940, Dutch resistance had been stiff. The Germans delivered an ultimatum: either surrender or Rotterdam would be bombed. At first, Dutch forces balked because the order hadn't been signed, and so a second, signed ultimatum was delivered. Unfortunately, the Germans didn't wait

for a response: A squadron of bombers leveled Rotterdam. When Amsterdam and Utrecht were threatened next, the Netherlands surrendered.

Amsterdam survived the war. Its canals and singular architecture remain intact, a stirring throwback to a lost age. Its instinct for tolerance survived as well. Long before World War II, the Netherlands was famed for doing things differently. As early as the 19th century, Dutch society had become characterized by *verzuiling* or "pillarization," a social order in which every religion and political persuasion achieved the right to act freely within its own institutions. Each one represented a pillar that supported the status quo, the underlying principle being "Agree to disagree." Those pillars may have deteriorated over the years, but not the philosophy—which defines the Amsterdam we know today.

Amsterdam is really two cities, according to its residents. In the spring and summer, Amsterdam blooms with tourists pouring into the city from across Europe. Flowers abound, the sidewalk-café scene flourishes, and festivals fill the calendar. Plus the latitude of the Netherlands provides daylight well past 10 p.m. In the summer, further stoking the city's nightlife.



A slab of Russia's hash entry. Original Shoesoles.



The Cannabis Cup is highly coveted.

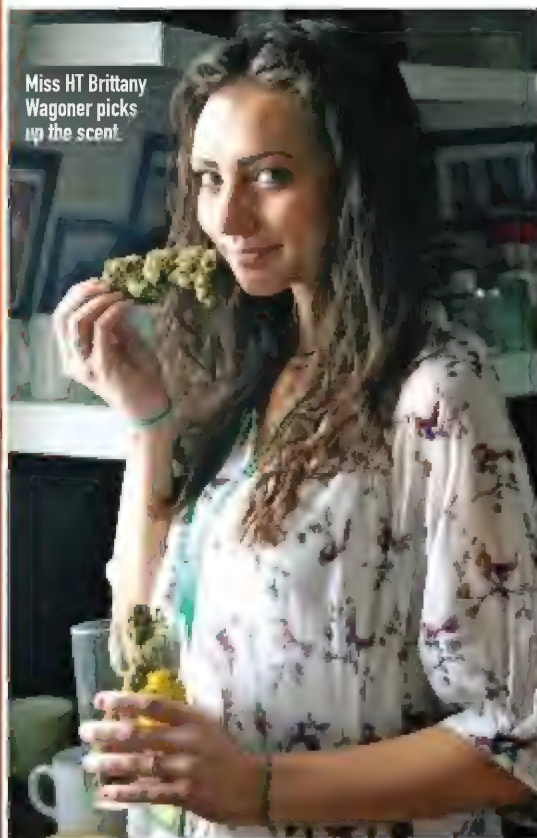
But cold weather in Amsterdam is a different story. Wet winds off the North Sea blow through town, and winter visitors who stroll the streets admiring the city soon find themselves far more interested in seeking warmth than sightseeing.

We all know that delicious sensation: You step in from the cold and your shoulders, which were hunched up around your ears, now relax. The wintry stiffness in your muscles is replaced by a sense of toasty well-being. Perhaps that's why coffeeshops were invented: What better way to chase the chill away than with a hot, caffeinated beverage in a convivial setting? Add cannabis to the mix and you've found cold-weather paradise.

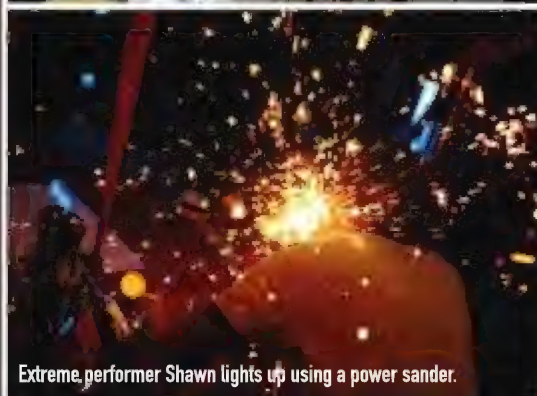
People often ask why the Cannabis Cup takes place in November, rather than in the spring or summer. For one thing, founder Steven Hager conceived the Cup as a harvest celebration. For another, tourist rates soar during the warm-weather months. Spain and California have both been proposed as cool new venues for the Cup, but frankly, Amsterdam is magical—a city where modern ideas thrive against a picturesque backdrop of Old World stateliness. In fact, when the cultural revolutions of the '60s transpired, Amsterdam was dubbed the "Magic Center" for its benign willing-



At the Green House, Italian judges flame up a chillum.



Miss HT Brittany Wagoner picks up the scent.



Extreme performer Shawn lights up using a power sander.



Celebrity judges take copious cannabis notes.

ness to allow visitors to seek freedom in whatever shape it might take. For Americans and for citizens of other nations who love cannabis, and suffer persecution at the hands of their own government, Amsterdam is a vision of how rich life can be—if only our governments could just *let us be!*

Coffeeshops are an introduction to that vision. First-time Cannabis Cup judges are always blown away by the concept of relaxing at a table with friends, breaking out the buds and toking up—all without fear of arrest. Purchasing pot over the counter is a revelation as well.

For newcomers, their first foray into the coffeeshop scene usually ends up at either the Green House or Barney's. Over the Cup's 23-year history, the Green House and Barney's have won nearly 50 first-place awards—and no two coffeeshops have been marketed more effectively. Arjan, the owner of the Green House's four coffeeshops and seed company, is the unofficial leader in political matters affecting his industry. He's been an effective spokesman during the Dutch government's recent attempts—with prodding from the UK, France and Sweden—to restrict the coffeeshop scene.

More often than not, Arjan is the first interview for reporters covering the commerce of cannabis in Amsterdam. He may be a relentless promoter of Green House coffeeshops and products, but he perpetually pitches the economic benefits of the industry as well. Additionally, he's encouraged new coffeeshops to open. So it was interesting to watch him interact with a French journalist seeking an interview. First, he be-



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Give people a taste of freedom and they'll want more. Amsterdam may be the perfect training ground. And that's why the Cup is here.

At the Soma Seeds booth, prime samples of Amnesia Haze are readied for judges.

DALE GIERINGER FREEDOM FIGHTER OF THE YEAR

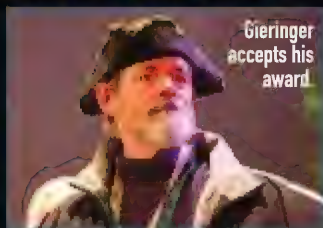
Author and advocate Dale Gieringer has been at the forefront of the fight for cannabis freedom in California for decades. One of the driving forces behind Proposition 215, the nation's first statewide medical-cannabis law, Gieringer has been the state coordinator of California NORML since 1987 and currently serves as vice-chairman of the national board of directors. He traveled to Amsterdam for this year's Cannabis Cup as an honored guest, and also lent his well-pedigreed palate to our team of expert judges.

What do you look for in a coffeshop in Amsterdam?

What makes a coffeshop most pleasant is not just how you're treated as a customer, but also if you happen to run across other people there to smoke with that you know or can hang out with. That's sort of a random-chance thing, but I've had some nice encounters. And if I didn't meet anybody I wanted to hang out with, or if the music was bad, then I just moved on.

As the HIGH TIMES Freedom Fighter of the Year, are we ending the year more or less free?

In California, we're freer because Governor Schwarzenegger signed a bill to downgrade marijuana possession from a misdemeanor to an infraction. It's definitely a step forward, and it's the first reduction in general pot penalties we've had in California since 1976.



We're also entering the new year with an additional medical-marijuana state in Arizona, but I also hear we could have trouble looming in places like Montana and, of course, Washington, DC, now that Republicans have taken over some of the committees in Congress.

What will be the focus for California NORML in 2011?

Marijuana is legal in California for medical use, but we really have to spend the next year straightening up the state distribution system. The rules vary widely from county to county. We

need to fix the system to some extent. We should open it up to out-of-staters with some sort of reciprocity for medical users, and we will also be supporting legislation to protect medical-marijuana patients from drug testing. Those are all things that might be realizable in the legislature. At the same time, it would help to demonstrate an effective and secure supply system for medical cannabis so that we can take that to the voters and say, "Here—we have a model that works, and let's just extend this further."

I know there's also a lot of interest in another legalization initiative, and we're actually going to be sponsoring a statewide conference with all the interest groups represented to start figuring out how we move forward towards 2012.

—David Bienenstock

rated that country's minister of health for attacking his industry and singling out Green House coffeshops in particular. Then, after thoroughly unnerving the reporter, he smiled sweetly and asked, "What can I do for you?"

Certainly, Arjan's foremost concern is keeping the Green House's business strong—but make no mistake, he's a stalwart defender of basic freedoms, cannabis-related or otherwise. So, too, is Derry of Barney's. Over the past decade, Barney's has risen meteorically in stature. There are now three locations, all within a stoner's throw of one another.

Three years ago, at the 20th Cup, Barney's swept the top awards. This year, Barney's nearly did it again, winning the top prize for Tangerine Dream, plus the Cups for import hash and Nederhash, while taking first place for Best Expo Booth and Best Expo Product. Derry's victory speech was an impassioned plea: "Keep seeking freedom!" Not the freedom to smoke or to grow, but freedom, period.

"Never stop fighting," he implored the audience. "We can get there. We're close, but it will take all of us working together!"

Perhaps that's the essence of the Cannabis Cup: Give people a taste of freedom and they'll want more. Amsterdam may be the perfect training ground. And that's why the Cup is here.

Judges usually arrive a day or two before the event gets underway. If they're rookies, they'll venture timidly into a coffeshop and observe other customers to figure out how the transactions are conducted. Once they've bought their weed, their introduction to a sane new world has begun.



Tangerine Dream

Cannabis Cup® Winner 2010

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Katrina of DNA shows Miss HT seeds.



A hit of Super Lemon Haze puts a judge in a super, lemmery haze.



Mellow Yellow's merchandise on display.

For many, attending the Cannabis Cup is high on the stoner "bucket list," one of the items that must be achieved in every toker's lifetime.

But there's serious competition in this world as well. Coffeeshops want to win a Cup because it promotes business. Growers want to win because it enhances their status and income. And stoners want to smoke a Cup-winning strain because—well, what stoner wouldn't?

For many, attending the Cannabis Cup is high on the stoner "bucket list," one of the items that must be achieved in every toker's lifetime. But unlike skydiving or bungee jumping, the Cup is best enjoyed with company—someone to share all those great buds with. European vacations are planned around the Cup; guys usually come in posses of two or more. Increasingly, the Cup is becoming a family affair: More than a few fathers and sons registered this year, while one mom came with her adult children at the last minute, explaining that the Cup had been a gift to them—but as Cup time neared, she felt that she might be missing out on something, so she signed up as well.

Billowing smoke isn't the only thing in the air here. Romance blossoms in the heavenly haze, and many stoned proposals of marriage have been proffered. In fact, back at the Eighth Cup in 1995, Stephen Gaskin actually performed nuptials onstage at the awards ceremony. The couple's love for each other—and pot—was so great that instead of exchanging rings, they had matching cannabis-leaf wedding bands tattooed on their fingers.

In the early years, the event was predominantly attended by Americans. But now, almost every continent is represented—a full-melt melting pot, if you will. For those living in regions halfway around the world, the Cup is a tough

DNA EVIDENCE

Don and Aaron of DNA Genetics took home five Cannabis Cup awards this year. Although Barney's Farm was the big winner, scoring five first-place wins, the boys from DNA appeared onstage just as many times to accept their share of prizes.

2010 was a stellar year for DNA: They won the *Indica* Cup (through their offshoot, Reserva Privada), took second place in the *Sativa* Cup, and finished in second and third place in the competition for Best Seed Company Hash. They also took third place in the coffeshop competition with their LA Cheese. And last February, at the Spannabis Champions Cup, they scored two second- and two third-place wins. "We had never entered the hash category" at the Spannabis Champions Cup before, Don notes. "So taking a second and a third for hash in both categories was special, because we have refined our hash-making. We're getting the fullest flavor as well as essence from the crystals. The flavors are coming out like never before!" Don and Aaron were hoping for a similar finish in the Best Seed Company Hash competition at the Cannabis Cup (their first time in that category as well), and that's exactly what they got.

Meanwhile, their *Indica* Cup winner, Kosher Kush, is a top-notch strain out of California. It's over-the-top stinky, produces an average yield, and makes everyone who inhales it feel *highly* blessed. The story goes that a group of Jewish kids in LA had this great herb that they were calling Jew Gold. "We couldn't wrap ourselves around the name," Don explains. "Instead, we referred to it as the JG. In time, we acquired a cut from the JG crew—at a price, of course—and it more than lived up to its hype. Both Aaron and I are nonreligious on every level. To the general public, 'kosher' means something is okay or legitimate. We trusted that the cannabis commu-



Don and Aaron celebrate a winning night. Inset: L.A. Confidential, a legendary DNA strain.

nity could handle a stoner name like Kosher Kush." Apparently so—the demand for Kosher Kush is already off-the-hook. Feminized seeds will be available in early 2011.

DNA's Chocolope took second place again at this year's *Sativa* Cup. It was named HIGH TIMES Strain of the Year in 2007 and has won honors in many other cannabis competitions. Originally named D-Line, it's a pot farmer's dream plant: easy to grow, a big yield, and a producer of heavy nugs.

There may be some confusion about LA Cheese, a cross of DNA's prized LA Confidential male with an Exodus Cheese female (the only way it could be achieved, since there is no Exodus male).

LA Cheese was on the market in 2008, but by the end of the year, DNA renamed it Confidential Cheese. The DNA partners apologize for the name change, but not the exquisite bud.

Now with various licensing deals in the works, DNA has been working with several companies—especially those located in medical-marijuana states. "Marijuana is slowly being seen by the general public as a possible solution to common problems, not the scary gateway drug of the past," says Don. "We're working hard to preserve the sanctity of the plant." —DS

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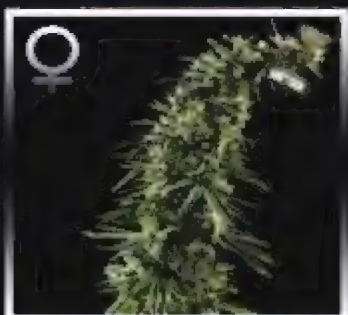
ARJAN'S HAZE #2



ARJAN'S HAZE #3



ARJAN'S ULTRA HAZE #1



HAWAIIAN SNOW



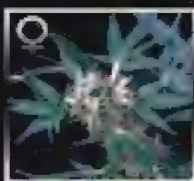
NEVILLE'S HAZE



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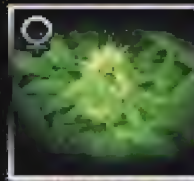
ARJAN'S STRAWBERRY HAZE



TRAIN WRECK



K-TRAIN



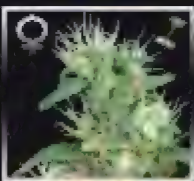
BUBBA KUSH



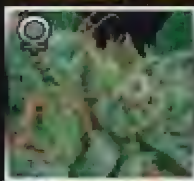
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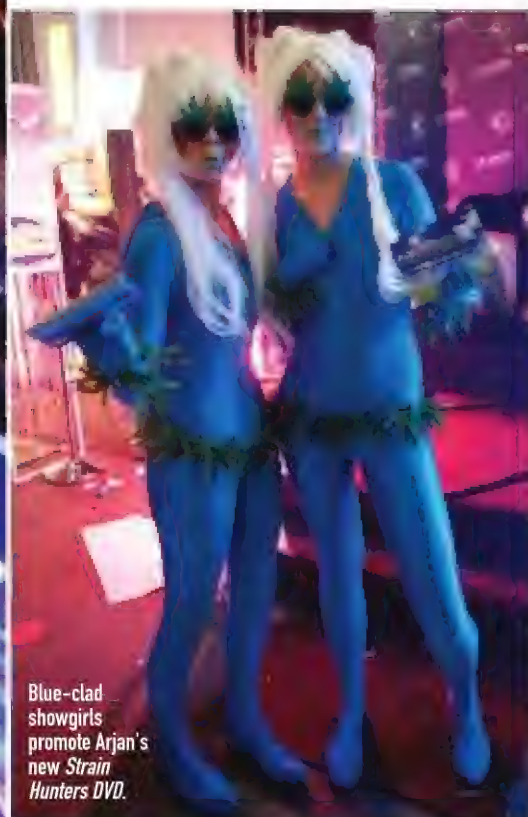
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At the T.H. Seeds fashion show, performers flip into the audience.

The PowerZone is where the seed companies welcome the judges to sample their world-class marijuana.



Blue-clad showgirls promote Arjan's new *Strain Hunters* DVD.

voyage, requiring multiple flights. One Alaskan attendee even traveled by dog sled to get to a highway in order to drive to the airport for the first leg of his trip.

The Cannabis Cup Expo is mounted at the PowerZone, a suburban rock club a few commuting minutes from Dam Station. The PowerZone is where the seed companies welcome the judges to sample their world-class marijuana. The seed trade is brisk, and each booth is hosted by knowledgeable growers and, often, the star breeders themselves. Soma, one of the most recognizable faces of the cannabis industry, always makes a point of meeting his public daily at the Expo, this year treating fans of Soma Seeds to Amnesia Haze, a delectable *sativa*.

Most of the companies who enter strains rely on vaporizer bags extending six feet or more—the better to serve eager lungs more efficiently. But the judges are also encouraged to do the Coffeeshop Crawl. The Crawl is actually a guide found in the Cup program. It maps out a walking route to all of the coffeeshops that have entered strains (this year, 22 in all)—a veritable treasure map to finding bliss.

Of course, bliss doesn't guarantee a Cannabis Cup. This year, the Bulldog—one of the oldest cof-



A judge takes advantage of a complimentary bong hit.



Buds now have their own comic books.



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The Bulldog's Silver Star Haze.



feeshops in Amsterdam—entered a strain for the very first time: Silver Star Haze, an outstanding *sativa*. The Noon offered Sleaze, which many judges believed was worthy. Kaas Kush, found at the Betty Too café, was another, and Katsu Amnesia, pride of the Katsu coffeeshop, lived up to its name completely. (Maybe that's why it didn't win.)

The judges were also treated to a number of parties and, every night at the Melkweg nightclub, hip-hop beats shook the building. Over the years, Cup founder Steven Hager has chosen a specific element of the counterculture to honor at each event. Past Cups have spotlighted jazz and reggae, but the yearly Cup themes aren't limited

to music: We've seen events that honored the Beat Generation, the Rainbow Family, the Native American struggle, even marijuana smugglers.

The incredible patchwork of thought, action and philosophy that comprises the counterculture is often derisively dismissed by society's mainstream, but we know better. The counterculture continues to flourish, and marijuana is often the catalyst that triggers a shift in the perspective of adventurous souls, which results in the creation of new art, new music or new insights into what really makes the world go round. In fact, the 2003 Cannabis Cup was devoted to exploring the world of conspiracy.

THE EVOLUTION OF A CEREMONY

The Cannabis Cup is the perfect blend of commerce and cannabis spirituality.

It was just a party when it began—a party that very few people attended. The event didn't even become public until the sixth year, and even then, only 50 people showed up. That was also the first year a 420 ceremony was held. The late Jack Herer, a longtime devoted Deadhead, looked perplexed when I told him that we were going to have a ceremony at 4:20 in the afternoon for the Sixth Cup. That was back in 1994, and most Deadheads still didn't have a clue about 420. But it had been percolating within their subculture since 1972, when the concept had been invented by the Waldos of San Rafael High School.

Over the next few years, as the Cannabis Cup began attracting hundreds of attendees, we held council after every 4:20 p.m. ceremony. These councils allowed anyone to speak freely and were instrumental in shaping the evolution of the event.



But the biggest influence came from Stephen Gaskin, one of the greatest spiritual leaders of the counterculture. I'd been a fan of his since my first trip to Haight-Ashbury in 1968 as a teenage runaway. In the early 1990s, I spent a few weeks living with Stephen and Ina May Gaskin at The Farm in Summertown, TN, seeking guidance. When I asked him to instruct me on how to conduct ceremonies, Stephen told me—like the true Zen master he is—that he didn't dictate ceremonies; they manifested themselves naturally, whether you knew they were happening or not. At

the Seventh Cup, while speaking about nonviolent culture at 4:20 p.m., Stephen mentioned that although he was nonviolent, he was also a temple dragon protecting the ceremonial spaces of his community. Twelve hours later, at 4:20 a.m. in the Quentin Hotel, the Temple Dragon Crew was born, dedicated to protecting the ceremonial spaces of the Cup.

Three years later, I created the Counterculture Hall of Fame as a means of helping to shape ceremony and ritual at the Cup. Bob Marley was the obvious first inductee. Thirteen years later, the time was ripe for the first hip-hop artist.

I no longer look for the obvious when it comes to the Counterculture Hall of Fame; now it's all about recognizing those who have been unjustly ignored. Everyone knows that Kool Herc was the first hip-hop DJ, and Herc has enjoyed a lot of accolades and fame, even though he's

never made much money off his creation. But very few seem to realize that Herc had a partner in all his original events, and that partner was the original hip-hop MC, Coke La Rock. My mission became to find Coke La Rock and get him to the Cannabis Cup—something I was eventually able to do with the help of Grand Wizzard Theodore, the greatest of the first generation of hip-hop DJs.

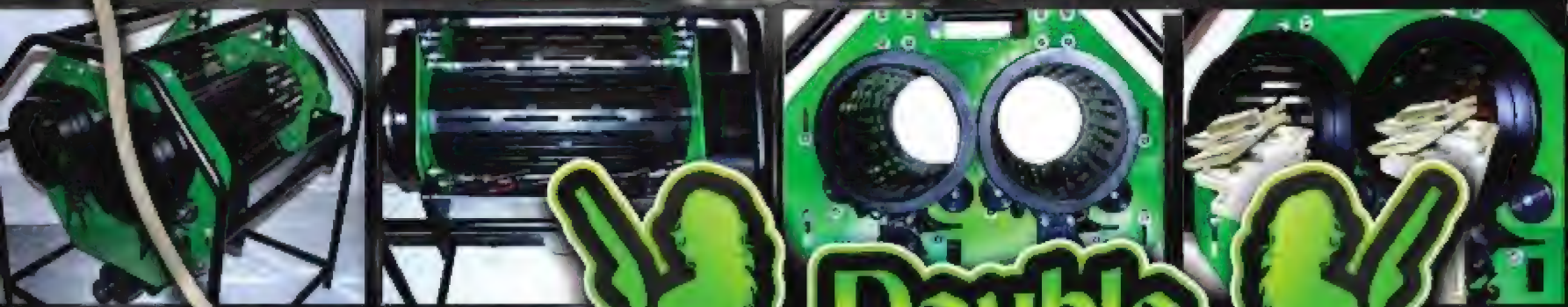
Over the last two decades, a number of rituals have become Cup traditions. We started with one candle on the altar, and now we have seven, representing the seven powers of cannabis: utility, sexuality, medicine, love, poetry, vision, and spirit. It was a vision that came to Alex Grey during a 420 ceremony, and now we light the seven candles during every day of the Cannabis Cup, at precisely 4:20 p.m.—Steven Hager

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The Melkweg audience roars for Kid Cudi.



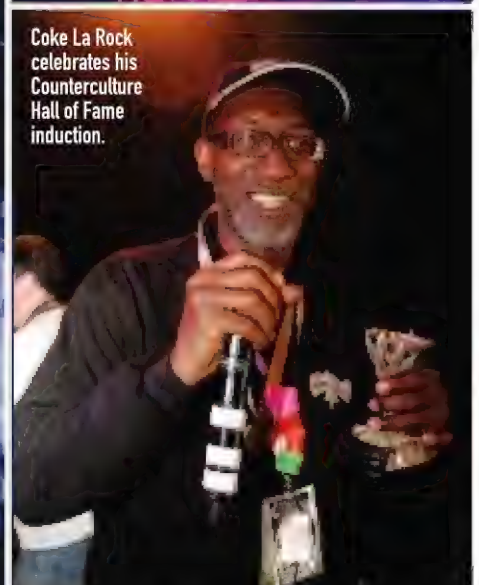
Cudi blazes up before taking the stage.



Grand Wizzard Theodore spins.



Busy Bee busts it out.



Coke La Rock celebrates his Counterculture Hall of Fame induction.

But this year, the first generation of hip-hop was given center stage because it, too, is a product of the counterculture, a rhythmic street reaction to daily oppression. Coke La Rock, although forgotten by many, is one of hip-hop's creators. It was Hager's objective to ensure that these musical revolutionaries received their rightful place in the pantheon of counterculture icons.

"We the cats that put the first brick in the Yellow Brick Road," La Rock says. When he was inducted into the HIGH TIMES Counterculture Hall of Fame, it was with profound gratitude that he thanked Hager for "remembering."

As always, the tension mounts as the awards ceremony approaches the most prestigious Cups. The preliminary awards for Best Expo Product and Best Expo Booth are a wide-open competition: If a booth attracts judges with superb pot and smokes out a goodly share of them, that company will be in the thick of the battle. So when Barney's won both prizes, it was a foreshadowing of the overall victory to come. Yes, the Tangerine Dream was that good.

Sissi of Amnesia Seeds was ecstatic with her victory in the Import Hash Cup for her Caramella Cream. She beamed with gratitude, thanking the celebrity panel of judges

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Backstage with Steven Hager, Coke La Rock, Busy Bee, and Vulcan.



Eager judges flock to the booth shared by BioBizz and Positronics.



THE 23RD ANNUAL CANNABIS CUP AWARD WINNERS

Coffeeshop (Cannabis Cup)

- 1st Barney's Coffeeshop-Tangerine Dream
- 2nd Green House Unlimited-Super Lemon Haze
- 3rd Green Place-LA Cheese

Nederhash Cup

- 1st Barney's Farm-Tangerine Nectar Iceolator
- 2nd Green House United-Green House Ice
- 3rd Grey Area-Grey Crystal

Import Hash Cup

- 1st Barney's Coffeeshop-Caramella Cream
- 2nd Green House United-Rif Cream
- 3rd Green Place-Twilza

Seed Company Sativas (Sativa Cup)

- 1st Amnesia Seeds-Acapulco Gold
- 2nd DNA Genetics Amsterdam-Chocolope
- 3rd HortiLab-Sour Power

Seed Company Indicas (Indica Cup)

- 1st Reserva Privada-Kosher Kush
- 2nd T.H. Seeds-Cold Creek Kush
- 3rd Karma Genetics-White OG

Seed Company Hash

- 1st HortiLab-Starbud Meltz
- 2nd Reserva Privada-Sour Diesel
- 3rd DNA Genetics Amsterdam-Blackberry Kush

Glass Award

- 1st Roor-Ghost
- 2nd The Cali Connection-The Klingon
- 3rd Dragon Bong & Earth Spirit-Dragon Bong

Expo Booth Award

- 1st Barney's Farm
- 2nd Green House Seed Company
- 3rd Attitude Seed Bank

Product Award

- 1st Barney's Farm-Barney's Bud Scope
- 2nd Green House Seed Company-Strain Hunters: India DVD
- 3rd Vapir-NO₂ Vaporizer



Mila was awarded a surprise Cannabis Cup by Arjan and Derry.

who voted on the top strains submitted by seed companies. That select group included senior cultivation editor Danny Danko and other HT staffers, Addison DeMoura of Steep Hill Lab, Ray Rae's Medicine of Montana, Miss HIGH TIMES Brittany Wagoner, and other experts who preferred to remain nameless. Consensus was paramount in order to get the job done. It was easy eliminating strains that were less than great, but deciding upon the greatest was a narrowing-down process that required advanced powers of discernment.

Surprisingly, the Green House didn't win a Cannabis Cup this year—a rare occurrence. However, a mix-up onstage resulted in the Nederhash Cup being mistakenly awarded to Green House Ice. Arjan took the stage and, in turn, presented the award to Mila, the hash queen of Amsterdam, who markets the popular Pollinator hash-making machine. Arjan's intent was to honor Mila for her years of dedication to the cannabis industry, but, alas, the Cup wasn't his to give; Barney's was the actual winner.

The next day, at the traditional post-awards celebration at the winning coffeeshop, Arjan stopped in to help celebrate Barney's big win. Steve Hager took Derry and Arjan aside to explain the error. Both of them laughed, and Derry gladly seconded Arjan's recognition of Mila. The Cup was hers to keep.

DNVA GENETICS.com



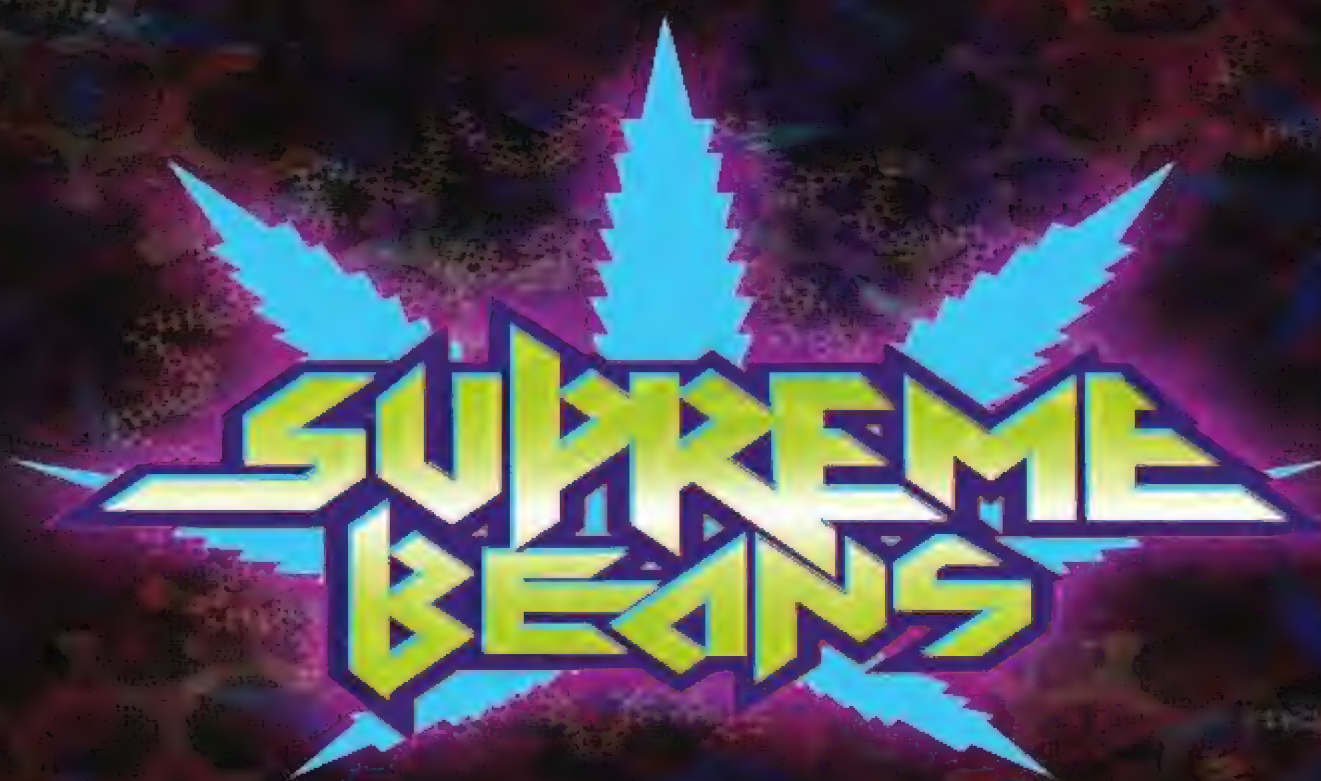
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Green House
impresario
Arjan.



The Cannabis Cup awards
just minutes before
presentation.



But don't feel too bad for Arjan: The self-proclaimed "King of Cannabis" took home five second-place medals this year, in the categories of Best Expo Booth, Best Expo Product, Best Nederhash, Best Import Hash and Best Coffeeshop Strain. In fact, Super Lemon Haze—the Green House entry that took the top prize in the last two Cannabis Cups—nearly did it again this year. It delivers a powerful yet balanced high, offering physically pleasing sensations while thoroughly engaging the cerebral aspects of being stoned. Super Lemon Haze is hardly a runner-up in anyone's book—and when Arjan arrived at the Barney's celebration, he was positively thrilled. "The busiest of the year so far," he commented happily. "All of my shops are packed!"

So was Barney's. Derry was in a rare mood, hugging anyone who crossed his path. At 4:20, the Cannabis Cup candles were lit once again. A violin played a traditional folk song, reaching a fever pitch by the tune's end. Derry stepped up to the microphone one last time to thank everyone—because, truly, his success is ours as well. We are the ones who are normalizing the planet's attitudes toward pot. And as the acceptance of marijuana grows, the world becomes a friendlier, less hostile place. 🌿



The day after his victory, Derry celebrates Barney's big win at 4:20.

DAN SKYE (2), FREEBIE, LARRY GREEN

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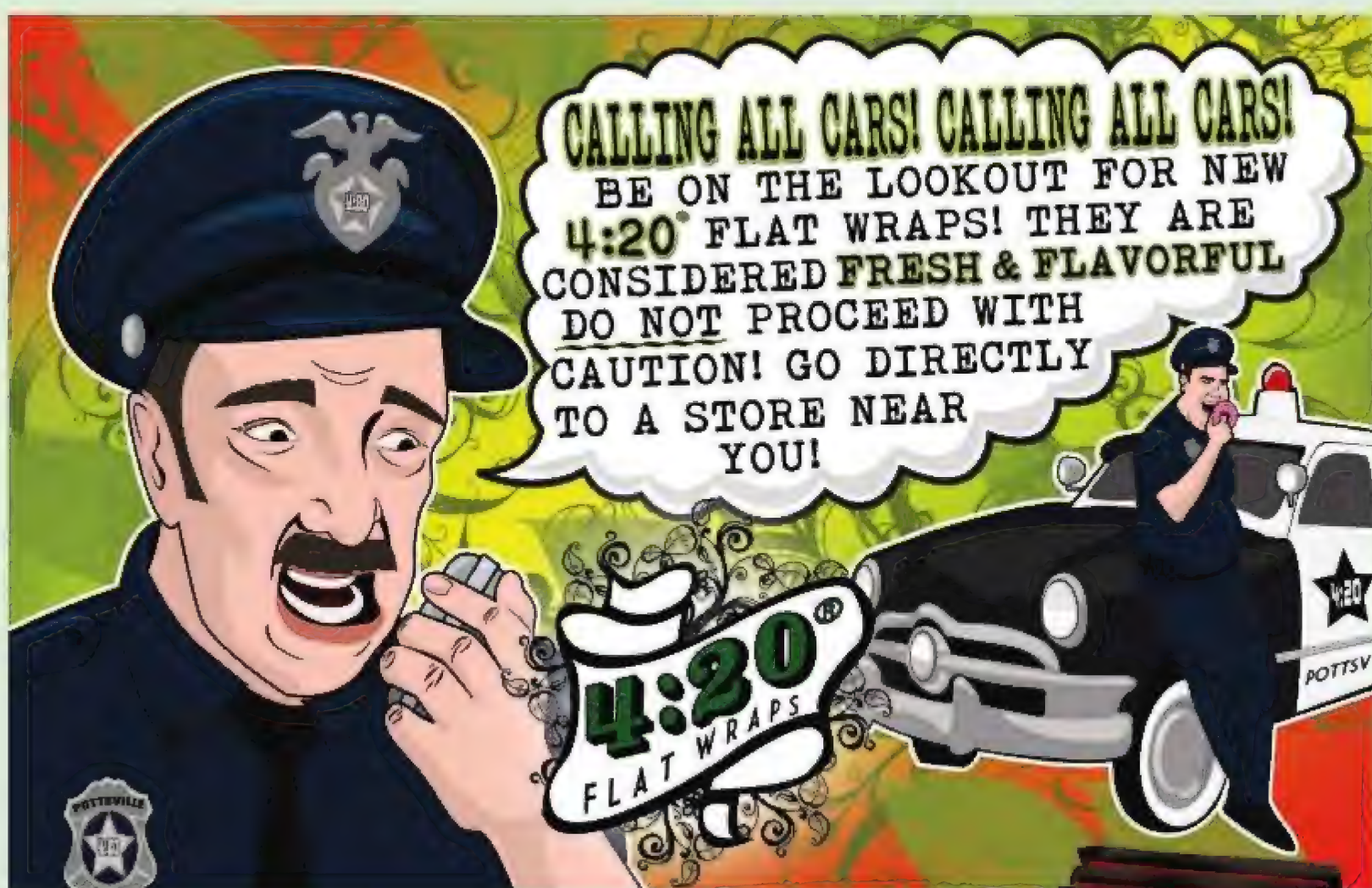
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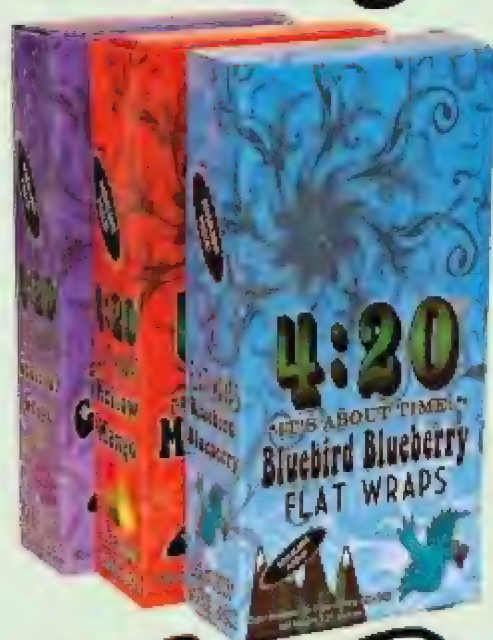
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RA KUSHY GOO

Some might say that smoking over 20 varieties of weed and hash a day and then judging them is like comparing apples and oranges. But in the case of the 23rd Annual HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup, it was more like comparing tangerines and lemons: Sweet and sour citrus flavors dominated the competition this year, as judges of every kind gathered in Amsterdam to evaluate the best strains in the world. **By Danny Danko**

Cannabis Cup-Winning Coffeshop Strains

1st Place

TANGERINE DREAM

Barney's Coffeshop

The popular vote went to this citrus-heavy offering from Barney's, with the majority of paying judges praising Tangerine Dream for its odor, flavor and potency. Sticky and covered in resin glands, this sweet variety stole the show, with 10-foot-long vapor balloons being offered daily at the Expo as well as joint giveaways at Barney's shops and parties.

Dark orange hairs cover each nugget, and the citrusy smell and flavor are hard to resist. My colleague Nico Escondido also noted the dense bud formation of Tangerine Dream as a plus for growers looking for bag appeal. Derry of Barney's Coffeshop continues his streak of winning and placing in the Cup with this sun-kissed strain.

2nd Place

SUPER LEMON HAZE

Green House Unlimited

Winner of the last two Cannabis Cups, Super Lemon Haze came within a few votes of a threepeat this year with a full-flavored barrage of tart-tasting buds. Dry hits reveal the flavor of sour lemons and that telltale Haze spiciness so prevalent in Holland.

A true *sativa*, Super Lemon Haze boasts an uplifting high and a buzz sure to please the most discerning pot palate. The effects are cerebral, starting in the forehead and eventually flowing throughout the mind and body for the kind of exhilarating effect guaranteed to incite artists and free thinkers to acts of spontaneous joy. Old-timers especially will appreciate the multilayered boost achieved from smoking or vaporizing this luscious strain. Green House scores again!

3rd Place

LA CHEESE

Green Place

Fresh off a pair of third-place wins in the last two years with Chocolope ('08) and Headband Kush ('09), the Green Place keeps scoring with powerhouse American and British ganja genetics that can't easily be found in Amsterdam yet. Their 2010 entry, the LA Cheese, is Big Buddha's combination of his original UK "Exodus" Cheese pollinated by an LA Confidential male acquired from DNA Genetics.

This tangy, *indica*-dominant variety reminded many California judges of the Kushes they smoke back home, with that narcotic Afghan stone that seems to go on forever. Rapper Devin the Dude called this one "top-shelf" and especially praised its "clean burn." Big Buddha says this strain performs better in cold, harsh climates than his Cheese or the LA Confidential, producing "medium-sized nuggets packed with a dense barrier of trichomes."



SILVER STAR HAZE
Bulldog Coffeeshop



BLACKWATER
Cali Connection



SUPER SKUNK
White Label
Seed Co.



CARAMELIZE
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TRUE BLOOD
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Seed Co.



CLOUD NINE
Kiwi Seeds



MANGO OG
DNA Genetics



PINEAPPLE CHUNK
Barney's Farm
Seed Co.



SOUTH STAR
Kiwi Seeds



SOUR KUSH
Reserva Privada
Seed Co.



LA CONFIDENTIAL
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HIGH TIMES ZERO CANNABIS CUP



SUPER LEMON MINTZ
Green House Seed Co.



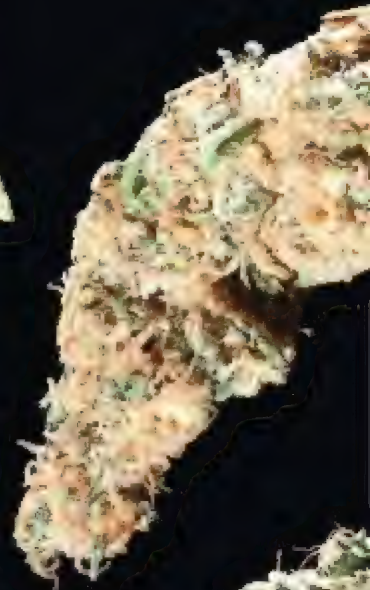
SLEETZ
The Noon Coffeeshop



KUSHIER KUSH
Reserva Privada Seed Co.



LA CHEESE
The Green Place Coffeeshop





KANS KUSH
Betty, Tool Coffeeshop



TANGERINE DREAM
Barney's Farm and
Coffeeshop



ENDOCLOPE
DNA Genetics
Amsterdam



EMERSON
De Kroon Coffeeshop



ACAPULCO GOLD
Amnesia Seed Co.



COLD CREEK KUSH
T.H.Seeds



SOUL POWER
Hortilab Seed Co.



WHITE OG
Karma Genetics Seed Co.

TURZAN
The Green Place Coffeeshop



PINEAPPLE CHUNK
Barney's Farm
Seed Co.



GREEN HOUSE ICE
Green House United Coffeeshop



CARAMELLA CREAM
Barney's Coffeeshop



STARBUD MELTZ
HortiLab Seed Co.



SOUL DIESEL
Reserva Privada Seed Co.



BLACKBERRY KUSH
DNA Genetics
Amsterdam Seed Co.



GREY CRYSTAL
Grey Area Coffeeshop



REF KREME
Green House United
Coffeeshop

SEED COMPANY AWARDS

Each year at the Cannabis Cup, bud breeders enter 40 grams of their best strains to wow the assembled celebrity and expert judges and win awards of their own. These winners are chosen by an illustrious panel that this year included Addison DeNour and Russell Wiggins of Steep Hill Lab; Dale Gieringer of California NORML; Jason Hensley and Geoff K. of Ray Rae's Medicine, Montana; hip-hop artists Curren\$y and Chace Infinite; graffiti legend Vulcan; hip-hop founders Coke La Rock and Busy Bee; Miss HIGH TIMES 2010 Brittany Wagoner; and several other respected aficionados and connoisseurs.

Seed Company *Sativa*

1st Place

ACAPULCO GOLD

Amnesia Seeds

Old-school genetics made quite a splash this year in the *sativa* category, and you couldn't find a better example than Acapulco Gold. Sissi from Amnesia Seeds scored points in every category with this true-bred *sativa* with a downright racy high. Several judges used the word "tropical" to describe this unique entry and its long and pointy spears of goodness.

Almost astringent, with hints of pineapple, lemon and pine, the Acapulco Gold dazzled our panel with its sublime and potent effects filled with giddiness and laughter. Several judges were transported back to their earliest experiences getting high, bouncing off the walls and giggling uncontrollably. Heady stuff from a breeding outfit poised to win many more awards in the future thanks to their excellent breeding and selection process.

2nd Place

CHOCOLOPE

DNA Genetics Amsterdam

Another strain with old-school origins, Chocope was among the HIGH TIMES Top 10 Strains of 2007 after winning second place in that year's Cup. The DNA boys combined their Cannalope with an heirloom Chocolate Thai to produce this spicy selection with a cerebral high and that classic Chocolate flavor and odor.

Its slightly longer flowering time is made up for with a nice harvest of fruity, light green buds that taste every bit as good as they look. Unseasoned smokers should be wary, however: Stifled giggles can soon turn into gales of uncontrollable laughter, and some people even report racing hearts and bursts of paranoia as among the symptoms of over-puffing this strain.

3rd Place

SOUP POWER

HortiLab

First-place winners in the *indica* category last year with Starbud, HortiLab represented Germany to the fullest this year with their Sour Power, Starbud's *sativa*-dominant sister crossed with the East Coast Sour Diesel. Super-frosty, these dark-colored, golden-green buds smell kushy and burn to a clean, white ash. Earthy, piney and sweet, well-manicured nuggets of Sour Power form into chunky, crystal-encrusted balls of hashy goodness with a smoke that expands in the lungs.

With multiple wins in several categories (including first place in Seed Company Concentrates for their Starbud Meltz), HortiLab combines the best of Europe with the best of North America to produce an intercontinental cannabis powerhouse.



Seed Company *Indica*

1st Place

KOSHER KUSH

Reserva Privada

A true favorite that jumped to the top ranks immediately, Kosher Kush represented the finest of Southern California's vast array of *indica*-dominant varieties like OG and SFV Kush. Everyone marveled at this one, and kept coming back for more of its aromatic and potent qualities.

Don and Aaron from DNA Genetics started Reserva Privada as a way to highlight their unsung breeder buddies back home after they moved to Amsterdam from LA. They've done their homies proud, releasing this intensely sour selection with a pungent, menthol odor and plenty of Diesel kick. Aaron told us the Kosher Kush was actually blessed by a rabbi. Who knew?

2nd Place

COLD CREEK KUSH

T.H.Seeds

Colorado makes its Cannabis Cup debut—mere months before the first-ever HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup launches in Denver—with a strain from the Rocky Mountains region that takes the Kush odor, power and taste to the next level. Small, light green nuggets of potent, crystal-covered buds break up easily in a grinder, leaving behind a strong fuel smell reminiscent of the strongest of Kush strains.

Since spending some time in Denver recently, Adam from T.H.Seeds has been seeking to shine a light on the region's finest genetics, and Cold Creek Kush qualifies instantly. Hip-hop artist and cannabis connoisseur Curren\$y pegged it as a Kush strain right off the bat and predicted it would place in the top three for sure ... and he was right!

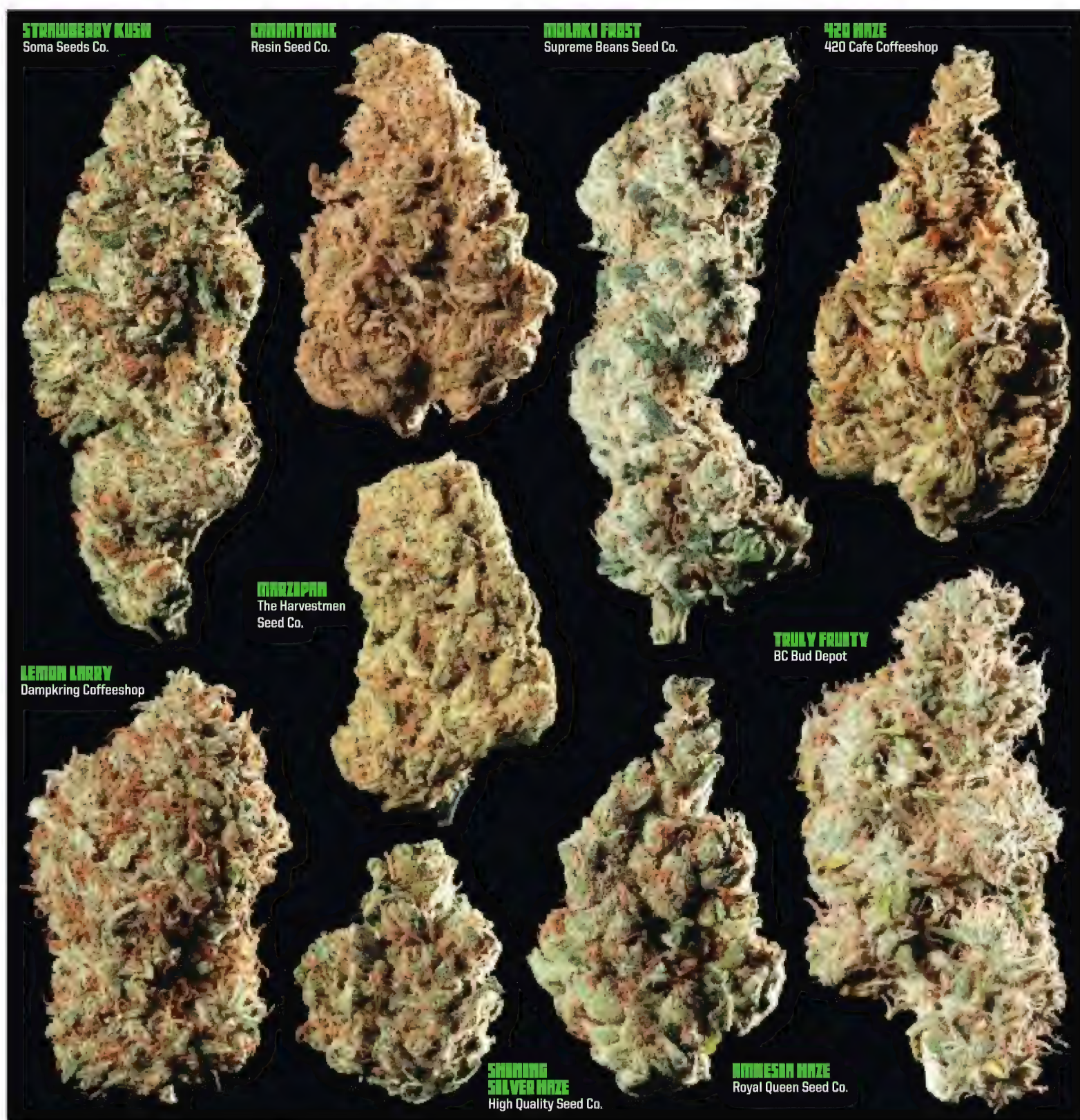
3rd Place

WHITE OG

Karma Genetics

This first-time entry wowed everyone in the judging room and was the quickest to get smoked. The soon-emptied jar attested to its popularity as a frosty, *indica*-dominant entry that pleased us all. One expert judge said it reminded him of Headband, and we couldn't argue with that assessment.

K.G., the breeder for Karma Genetics, almost placed in the *sativa* contest with his Dominator (Kushage x Jack Herer), but he ultimately scored with the zesty White OG, a distinctively shiny combination of the White crossed with SFV Kush. Properly dried and manicured, these buds exemplify what it means to be an *indica*-dominant dank.



Seed Company Concentrates

1st Place

STARBUD MELTZ

Hortilab

Golden bits of full-melt bubble that quickly disintegrated yet left the Sour Diesel flavor of the strain completely intact when smoked.

2nd Place

SOUL DIESEL

Reserva Privada

Another perfectly burning extraction that kept its distinct taste and odor without compromising the integrity of the burn.

3rd Place

BLACKBERRY KUSH

DNA Genetics Amsterdam

DNA proved yet again that they're masters of hashmaking with these clean and tasty morsels that bubbled away to nothing when lit.

Selected Coffeeshop Favorites

From the Expert and Celebrity Judges

SLEAZE

The Noon

Long known as a spot for true cannabis aficionados, the Noon be-

came a staple after winning Cups in 2000 and 2001 with their legendary Blueberry. Their entry this year burned clean and smooth, with a skunky odor and flavor that tasted great down to the last hit.

KAAS KUSH

Betty Too

This pungent first-time entry from a comfortable shop for connoisseurs enticed us all, especially the legendary graffiti artist Vulcan, who declared it his favorite. *Kaas* is Dutch for "cheese," and everyone who tried

it agreed that this version of Cheese exhibited the best qualities we've come to expect from the strain.

CHEMDAWG

De Kroon

A perfect example of our beloved East Coast staple (a.k.a. Chemdog), this Chemdawg kept drawing the judges back to this centrally located shop for its many outstanding selections of weed and hash. The varieties sold here are proof that great-tasting, clean-burning cannabis can indeed be found in Amsterdam. ✨

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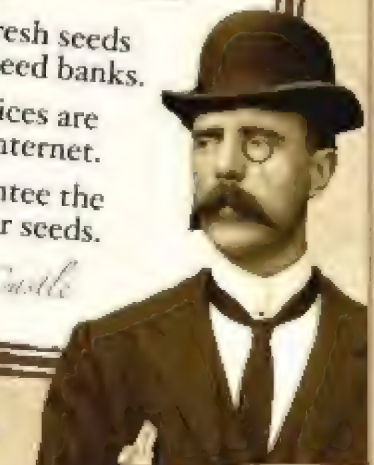
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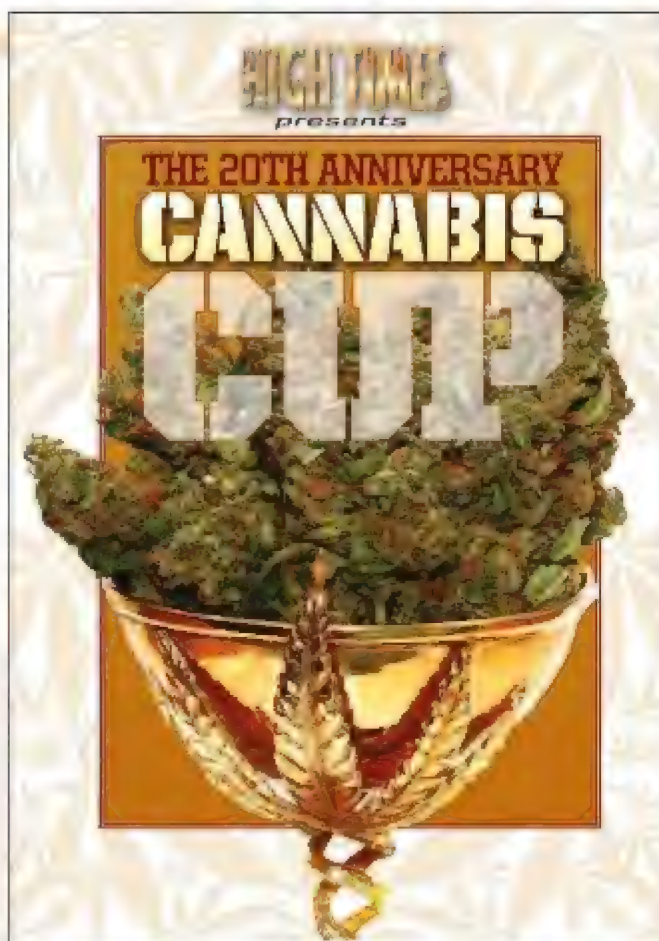
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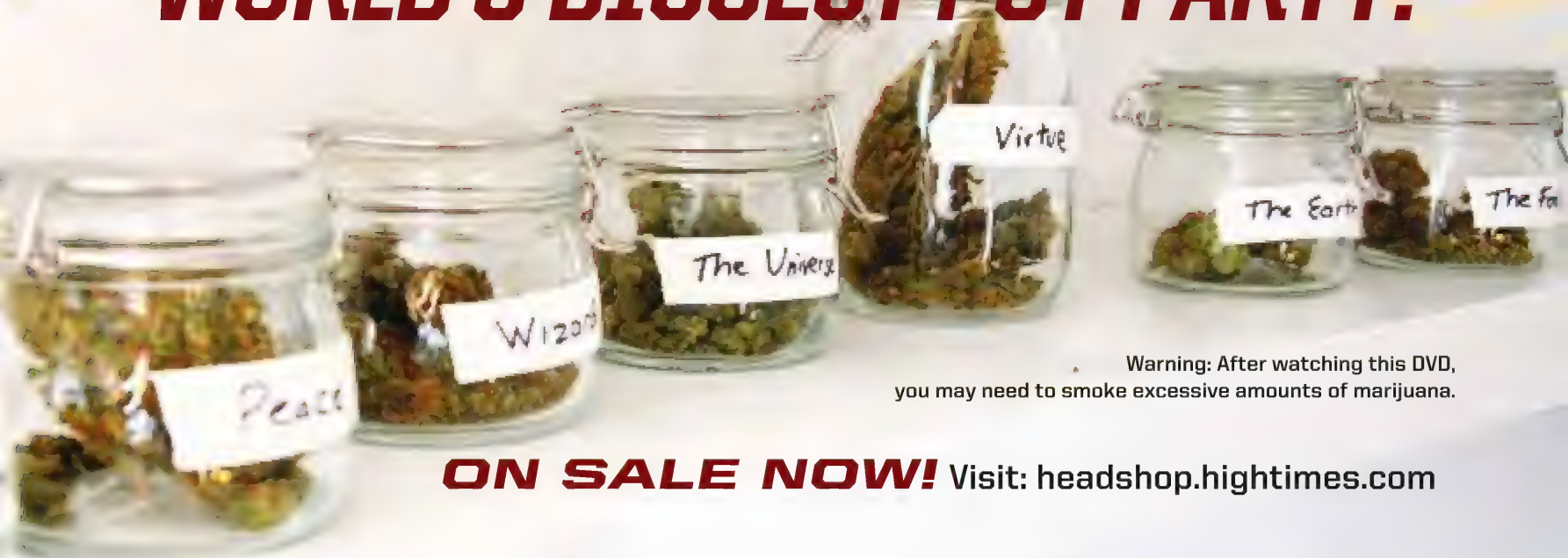
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Advanced Water

Part 2 **Outdoor Water Harvesting and Application.** By Hugh Jiëlder

In the first of this two-part series (Feb. '11 HT), we discussed the important technical details and typical pragmatic concerns involving the use of water in recirculating indoor grow systems. We now shift our focus to the opposite extreme: outdoor organic gardening. Since outdoor organic growers confront a different set of problems, this will be new territory for some people. Here, we'll cover outdoor water-collection techniques as well as the application of that water in organic operations. But don't worry if you're an indoor grower—this article is just as much for you, since we all, at some point or another, are tempted by the powers of the sun!

Water Sources

Indoor growers tend to be more concerned about their water's quality than in how they will procure it. That's because in more urban areas, water sources are readily available and running water easily furnished. But outdoors (and especially in more rural areas), this isn't always the case. Knowledge about water quality (and how to improve it) is only half the battle: The first concern for outdoor growers is less about what's in their natural water supply and more about how they're going to procure it, store it and apply it to their gardens.

Outdoor growing appeals to cannabis growers for two main reasons: first, because their plants can be far larger, and second, because the plants love natural sunlight (which, of course, isn't billed in kilowatt hours). And in regions where local deputies count plant numbers to determine the legality of a grow, bigger is indeed better.

Outdoor *organic* growing is popular not only because of the product's ultimate quality, but also because it can be drip-irrigated much more easily. To a grower, this means two things. First, their waterings are extremely efficient, since there's little waste involved. But it also means that the grower can leave the garden for a handful of days at a time. This is vital because, as much as we all appreciate nature, most of us aren't prepared to be permanently tied to our gardens as though we were living in simpler times.

Scoping Out a Spot

The first thing (other than the light situation) that many indoor growers will notice when choosing their first outdoor grow spot is that many locations lack a functional well or water source as well as the necessary plumbing. That's because wells are incredibly expensive to drill (about \$100-plus per foot), and there's no guarantee that drilling will hit water.

The absence of a well should not be thought of as a deal killer when buying cultivation property or scouting for garden locations, however; the remotest, most private and security-perfect locations usually tend to lack a well. Given the choice between security problems and water problems, most growers will choose water problems. And although the image of a grower sleeping with a gun beneath his pillow has become a popular stereotype with law enforcement, some of the best grow spots out there are protected by nothing but obscurity and a rugged landscape. These spots can go unvisited for years without any gate, fence or guard dog.

The sun drives plants hard in the great outdoors and water is gold in the garden.



Water in the Hole

In outdoor organic cannabis grows, plant holes *have* to drain, and they must drain well. This problem tends to plague growers who work in clay-dominant areas, as clay is the finest of all of the soils. It's okay if some water collects at the bottom of each hole, but plants will simply stop growing (and possibly even succumb to illness) if large amounts of water accumulate in their holes between waterings.

The reason for this is simple: The soil food web, which organic plants depend upon for life, must breathe oxygen in order to deliver nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P) and potassium (K) to the roots. Excessive water displaces that oxygen and can leave outdoor organic plants looking yellow and sickly from lack of nitrogen. A nitrogen-based organic tea can provide quick help, but the hole should first be fully drained and dried out, which can be a slow process—and some oversaturated plants may never fully recover.

Keep in mind that soil can vary tremendously from one spot to another. If there exists any doubt as to a particular area's drainage, a soil-moisture meter with a long probe (sized to the depth of your holes) can cast the deciding vote. Since the probe measures moisture at its tip, pushing it down the

depth of the hole can provide a basic idea of the moisture levels throughout. However, these probes aren't intended to remain in the hole as a continuous meter, and they can require regular calibration.

A drainage problem might convince some growers that they should stick to above-surface beds or container boxes. To check out the drainage in a particular spot, dig a hole and fill it with water as a test. If the water appears to stay trapped in the hole for more than a day, either pick another spot or go with raised beds. A safe bet would be to size the beds large and build them with thick wood that hasn't been pressure-treated. This will help to insulate the roots a bit from any extreme temperatures, and the microorganisms in the soil will be happier without the toxic wood preservatives. Substances like arsenic are used to treat wood because they help prevent wood rot, but they are also poisonous to life. Organic farms will not use treated wood for this reason, as it kills the beneficial life in soil.

If the grow spot is on the side of a hill, it's important that the holes or beds form a level container. When the top of the soil slants, any quick flush with a hose will tend to skim over the top of the hole rather than run down into it. This is especially important when dry, supplemental top dressings are applied to the topsoil, as growers don't use drip-irrigation systems to apply them.

Gravity isn't the only force of nature moving water in soil. Capillary action also tends to spread the water outwards. Just how much spreading occurs depends upon the type of soil being used: For example, clay spreads water the most and sand the least. In the ideal *loamy* soils that organically grown plants prefer—soils where the sand, silt and clay are "in balance"—the drippers should generally be spaced 16 to 18 inches when using standard 0.5 to 1 gph (gallons per hour) drippers.



How Much Water Storage Is Enough?

Outdoor growers should study the typical rainfall patterns for their prospective grow location before the growing season begins. If the calendar year breaks down into distinct wet and dry seasons, it may be necessary to hoard water in the months preceding the arid conditions in order to finish flowering. Using a range of estimates for approximate water consumption per plant, growers should calculate their best- and worst-case water-storage requirements for those dry months.

If the grow spot is a new and unfamiliar one, it won't be obvious at first exactly how long after the last rainfall it takes until all of the available water sources dry up. It might require many weeks of drought before the water line in a ravine creek bed drops below the soil line, turning the creek into seasonal dots. And, as a general rule, never ignore your worst-case scenario.

The decision to bring in a water truck is often a complex issue. By positioning water-storage devices uphill and away from plants, water-truck drivers can be employed with less fear of the security ramifications. If possible, places where the driver might see the plants should be blocked with fencing and transplanted native vegetation. Water trucks are supposed to leave empty, so don't fill them with fresh gossip on their way out. Small, remote towns are notorious for their gossip.

It's generally a bad idea to position a water-storage device at lengthy, horizontal distances from its garden destination when the water is being propelled by nothing more than gravity. In rugged terrains, long, horizontal, gravity-fed runs are reliable so long as the line declines at a continuous negative slope.



A booster pump moves water from a spring to gardens at higher elevations



A simple bucket can make an excellent foot valve or sediment filter.

Booster Pump It

It's now pretty well known that helicopter pilots on a search expedition for outdoor marijuana grows will look for, among other items, black "poly" plastic tubes branching off creeks and rivers. Even if the region is properly zoned for medical marijuana and all of the paperwork is in order, this doesn't mean that law enforcement will take kindly to growers helping themselves to the local water. In many locations, a thicket of legal regulations and fees often prevents the extensive drawing of surface water.

A typical scenario for a mountainous environment in the Northern Hemisphere is for the grower to set up gardens on a south-facing hill above a creek. How far uphill is a critical detail, because at around 8 pounds per gallon, water is incredibly heavy. Over the years, accordingly, engineers have spent a lot of time devising ingenious ways to move water uphill. For those of us lacking any knowledge of mechanical engineering, the simplest, cheapest option is to purchase a multi-stage booster pump and a generator to run it.

What's important to understand about booster pumps is that they're far better at pumping horizontally than vertically. A typical ratio of horizontal-to-vertical pumping capabilities can be on the order of 5:1. When planning to grow in mountainous terrain, purchase a cheap altimeter before shopping for the right booster pump. Use the altimeter to determine the vertical-height difference between your water source and your garden plot, and measure out

the linear pipe-run distance by walking it out. With these numbers in hand, contact several pump experts to find the lowest quote.

A pump expert can also suggest specific pipe diameters for the pump's input and output. It may take numerous plumbing adapters to connect the pump's output to the main run of flexible poly hosing. One of these pieces should be a check valve, sized to the pump's output, which protects the pump when it's shut off. Without the check valve, water will try to flow backwards and spin the motor in reverse, potentially damaging the pump.

Booster pumps require priming before they'll pump, and they must be secured in some manner to keep them from recoiling. These pumps are non-submersible and should be placed as close to the level of the water source as possible without exposing them to fluids that could short out their electronics. Since booster pumps come in both 120- and 240-volt varieties, the generator must be capable of operating at the pump's preferred voltage. If it's 240 volts, then the generator must be grounded with a copper rod at the pumping site. If the generator needs to be used further uphill as well, then be prepared to move it up and down the hill, and do not expect to run the pump on a 500-foot standard household (14-gauge) extension cord.

Remember that booster pumps are susceptible to damage if the water source runs dry. Also, the water intakes should be protected from all sizes of debris with a "foot valve" attached to the inside of a bucket with slits. If there's any risk that the pump might dry up its source, the water flow should be closely monitored. When creeks finally do dry up, this is a good time to roll up your sleeves and manually shovel out the water-collection point so that, when it eventually refills, the collection basin can hold more water.

Other Water-Collection Tricks

Since water is so heavy, outdoor growers are serious about their water collection. Water falling down a hill past plants is a missed opportunity. Since the engineering required to capture it can be minimal, this is about as free

as water gets. Some growers simply collect rainwater off of their rooftops all year long via gutters. Tarps on a hillside can do the same thing if they're properly oriented and have a good siphoning route to storage tanks.

When a water source carries a lot of silt, over time it can clog your hose lines. To address this problem, a spring box can be created to capture the junk before the water enters the hose. This is really just a glorified plastic trashcan with bulkheads installed across from one another. The silt in the water will settle at the bottom of the bin before it enters the spring box's output, but it will require regular emptying.

Another popular method for collecting water from natural mountain springs or streams is to use a collection pipe at the water source. A collection pipe can be easily constructed onsite with a few basic components. The idea here is to cut quarter-inch-wide lines into a 4-inch pipe. (Keep in mind when cutting that circular holes, for some reason, can cause air-bubble problems.) Seal one end with a 4-inch cap and use plumbing adapters to connect the other end to a long three-quarter inch hose. Attach a drainpipe sock with plastic ties to keep dirt from entering the slits in the 4-inch pipe. Place the capture device in the path of the running water, pin it down with large rocks, and build a small dirt dam to direct the water into it. Watch out for air bubbles and kinks in the hose run. Thousands of gallons can be quickly captured in this manner.



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Organic growers rely upon the soil food web - the microscopic fungi and bacteria that electrically interact with plant roots - for their daily feeding.

Water Storage Options

Outdoor growers have a few options for water storage. The simplest, by far, is the black or green poly water tank. Even at 2,500 to 5,000 gallons, these tanks can be hauled in a rented trailer attached to a four-by-four on any road with sufficient clearance. And they are surprisingly light enough to be rolled around by three or four people.

Poly tanks make the most sense because they can be used for gravity-feeding a garden with a simple, battery-operated "gravity-feed" timer. These timers are specifically designed to work with very low line pressures, and they often do it reliably for an entire grow season on just two AA batteries. Poly tank manufacturers generally advise against the use of rigid PVC connections to these tanks, as any shifting of the ground (such as from a minor earthquake tremor) can rupture those lines and drain the entire contents of the tank.

A person could be forgiven for thinking that the water in the black poly tank would, on the hottest days, heat up under direct sunlight. But this never really happens, even when the tank is exposed to the full, blazing sun. The more likely water-temperature problem pertains to the (typically black) poly line that carries the water from the tank to the plants. When exposed to direct sun, these lines can heat the water up to scorching temperatures. However, hot water from this black poly line is really only an issue when the line is first discharged,

unrestricted, through the end of a hose (and even then, only for a number of seconds).

Water can also be stored in giant rubber bladders, which are a cost-effective strategy for enduring an extended dry season. These bladders can be as large as poly tanks, if not much, much larger—some of them hold up to 50,000 gallons! Typically, these storage bags are used by the military and are food-grade quality. Some look like giant waterbeds more than 10 feet tall; others are more like 20-foot-long socks that are meant to lay on a very slight incline—though be very careful when placing these on any non-level ground, since once they get to sliding, there's no stopping them. The problem with bladders is that, although they make for a very cheap water-storage solution, they don't naturally lend themselves to simple gravity-feed systems because there's no drain at the bottom. Most growers use pumps to extract water from them.

Automated Gravity Drip-Feeding

Organic growers often water and feed separately. That's because many waterings rely upon the soil food web—the microscopic fungi and bacteria that electrically interact with plant roots—for their daily feeding. This makes watering outdoor organic gardens a drip-irrigation problem that can be easily automated. And overworked outdoor growers tend to perk up and pay attention when the word *automation* is used.

Even when utility electricity is readily available, gravity tends to be the more reliable option. Automated reservoir-based irrigation systems are most reliable when they're designed as a gravity-feed system from the start. In order to put gravity to work, tanks should be generally situated some height above the garden. Approximately 2.3 feet of height is required to produce one pound per square inch (psi) of water pressure in a pipe. This means that a drop of 23 feet will generally produce 10 psi. Water in the reservoir will add to this pressure, while tubing thinner than half an inch can subtract from it. It is possible, however, to create a gravity-feed drip-irrigation system that works at less than 10 psi.

Drip-irrigation systems should never depend upon quarter-inch poly line for long runs; that size is just way too small. Instead, stick to an inside diameter of no less than half an inch for longer runs. A roll of 1,000 feet of half-inch hose can be purchased for just \$70. Use plastic tees to split the line and plugs to end runs. Button drip emitters will fit into holes created with hole punchers specifically designed for this purpose. Soaker hose works, too.

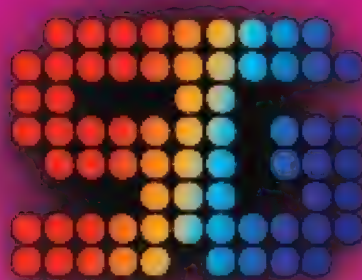
Make sure that *all* of the connections are secured with hose clamps. This is vital because direct sunlight will cause the poly tubing to become flexible and expand (which also makes it *far* easier to connect, by the way). The heat energy from sunlight can disconnect parts of the system in just a matter of days if hose clamps aren't used.

The number of plants that can be watered on a single timer depends upon the number of drip emitters per plant hole, the gallons per hour discharged by each dripper, and the size of the timer's valve orifice. In order to water more than 25 plants with one timer and five drippers per hole (which, combined, release 2.5 gallons per hour), the grower would want to make sure that the timer orifice is larger than half an inch. These timers are pretty cheap, so it's not a big deal to buy more than one.

Plumbing

Anybody who's tried to piece together plumbing parts is likely familiar with the difference between hose and PVC threaded parts. These two threading types may look similar, but they will not fit together very well, which means the connection will leak. Hose-to-PVC adapters are available for switching between the two. This sort of adapter might be required, for example, to couple the gravity-feed timer with rigid PVC, since most timers are designed to work with hoses.

PVC adapter ends are qualified as threaded or "slip" (flat) as well as "male" ("MIPT") or "female" ("FIPT"). As nature would have it, the "male" part here obviously fits into the "female." Permanent threaded connections are typically sealed with several layers of Teflon tape, whereas permanent slip-based connections are primed and then sealed with PVC glue. At some point in every cost-effective drip system, the line will have to switch to flexible black poly, and these lines are connected with male "barbs" that are tightened to the poly line with hose clamps.



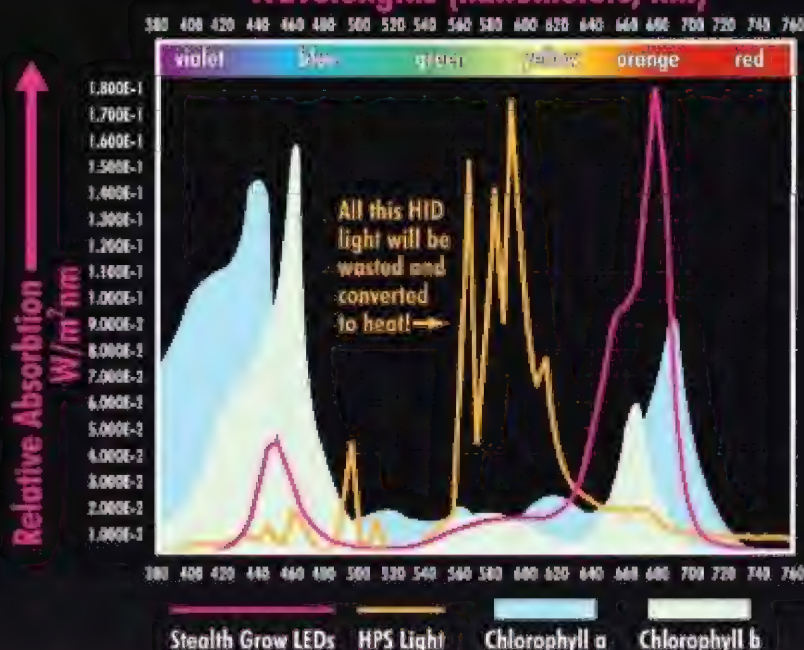
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Watering and Feeding Organic Plants

Unlike the store-bought bags, high-quality compost-based organic soils don't necessarily always require supplemental nitrogen for the entire grow season. But when outdoor organic plants do require supplemental nitrogen, potassium or phosphorous, organic growers have a decent variety of natural food sources to choose from. They can brew an organic tea, dilute the concentrate, and hand-water with that. Or they can evenly apply a dry organic supplement like bat guano to the topsoil before soaking the plant site with a hose. The outdoor grower has some flexibility in when this occurs, and all of the waterings in between are just plain (preferably oxygenated) water.

This means the poly lines never carry anything other than just plain water, which helps to eliminate any food sources for pathogenic bacteria that might otherwise set up shop within them. Keep in mind that if the black half-inch poly lines manage to escape physical damage like kinking, they will eventually become brittle and crack if exposed to a lot of direct sun. However, most substances can screen ultraviolet light, the sun's most damaging rays. Anything from good tree coverage to leaf or grass trimmings can go a long way in preventing line damage.

Sample Garden Notes

One typical outdoor organic grow, which we'll use here as a sample garden, involved plant holes measuring 32 inches wide by 24 inches deep. The Romulan Diesel plants weren't transplanted into the ground until mid-July, but they nevertheless grew to 4 feet high and 5 feet wide. The holes drained extremely well, and each plant was equipped with five drip emitters, each of which emitted a half-gallon per hour, for a total of 2.5 gallons per hour per hole.

Mid-sized (4-foot) plants in loamy organic soil can actually go many days without feeding once the holes have been saturated. But part of the beauty of drip irrigation with organic gardening is that the soil food web is happier with the consistent water supply that drip-irrigation systems generate. Even if the plants are capable of sustaining drought and saturation, mycologists know that fungal mycelia prefer a very specific moisture level in order to function at their maximum potential. These mycelia are absolutely crucial to generating huge-yielding plants. If properly implemented, drip irrigation can boost these microbes to perfection.

In a general sense, growers should expect to find many pragmatic differences between organic



and synthetic grow techniques due to the dramatic differences in their modes of operation. For example, to avoid both under- and overfeeding with outdoor organic plants, custom feeding programs should be tailored to suit the weather forecasts. When the weather report predicted a hot day (above 90°F), our sample garden was watered a total of two hours (5 gallons) for the day. On a somewhat cooler day (above 80°F, but below 90°F), the same garden was watered for a total of just one hour (2.5 gallons); anything less than 80°F and watering for that day was completely optional. If the temperature stayed low for several days, the grower might water every other or every third day for some minimum amount of time. Hot plants sweat just like hot humans do, and extra water is spent in this process in the form of perspiration. While this is a necessary part of photosynthesis, it does require more water for the plants; otherwise, they'll burn.

Indeed, some organic-compost manufacturers will tell you that their soil can be *too* hot for plants. While heat is good—it means that biological activity is strong—really hot compost should be cooled before use or it will burn up the roots. If in a rush, apply an extended water drench by diverting rainwater onto large, hot compost piles. This will cool them faster, but it's still best to avoid using high-temperature compost until it's within the proper range, lest your garden suffer.

Organic compost-based soils with an exceptional level of biological activity should be buffered from the root-balls of transplanted plants using regular topsoil with a very low N-P-K level. Even just a few inches will keep the roots from getting burned by these powerful soils. Mycorrhizal mycelia will transport nutrients across this barrier without difficulty, and the grower will want to add them early on to make sure they populate the medium.

Growers who use some of these super-high-nitrogen organic compost soils should be careful when their soil completely dries out, because any rapid saturation of the soil after drought will sometimes release enough nitrogen to burn the plants. When drought occurs, switch the drippers on first before any drenching. Conversely, overwatering can have the opposite effect if it persists for weeks. At first, the plant will just stop growing; then the leaves will begin to take on a yellowish appearance, akin to a nitrogen deficiency or pythium attack in an indoor plant. These sick plants can still generate a very potent product, but they won't yield as much as others. ✨

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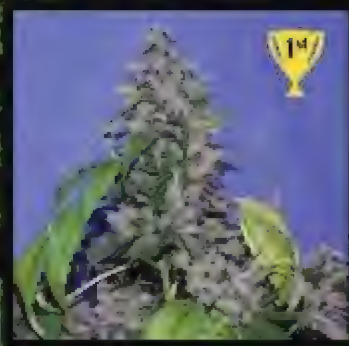
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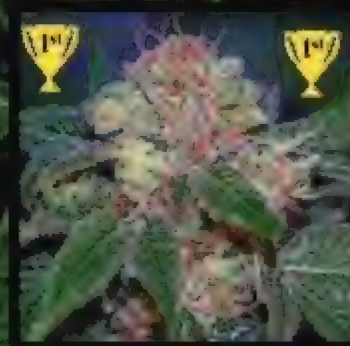
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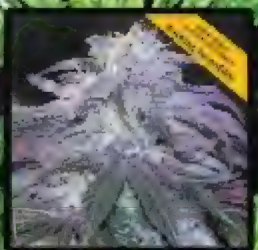
Burmese



Blackberry



Gold



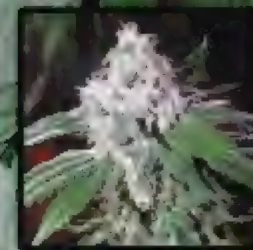
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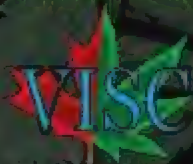
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Dan Fogler won the Tony Award six years ago. Here, he duplicates his winning pose while holding the HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup.



MAN AT PLAY

The HIGH TIMES Interview with Dan Fogler. Interview & photos by Dan Skye



For successful artists, there often comes a breakthrough moment—the point when they know they’ve stepped through the magic doorway and life will never be the same again. That moment came for Dan Fogler in 2005, when he won the Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in a Musical for *The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee*. Since then, he’s been scoring big laughs in films like *Balls of Fury*, *Kung Fu Panda*, *Good Luck Chuck* and, now, *Take Me Home Tonight* with Topher Grace, set for release in March. Dan’s also got Disney’s *Mars Needs Moms* in the can, and he’s a producer with Studio13, the film and theater production company he helped to found. He also writes constantly and is currently directing his second feature film. As he puts it simply: “I can’t sit still.”

We’ll take him at his word. During our interview, Dan jumps from his chair whenever he feels the need to act out his thoughts. He performs instant, dead-on impressions of showbiz notables and has no problem engaging in a two-sided conversation with himself in order to make his point better. Best of all, he likes to stoke his creative energy with a good *sativa*—which, he says, calls to him: “Tell the kids to come and play!”

We think we’ve heard that voice before. Meet Dan Fogler, everyone.

This is our annual Cannabis Cup issue. Have you ever been to the Cup or visited Amsterdam?

Yeah, I was out at the coffeeshops, and on the menus, they note the strains that won the Cup.

Do you have any strain worth mentioning?

Laughing Buddha, which was delicious. I got it in the Amnesia coffeeshop—I can’t believe I remember that! Oh, and G-14 ... that was pretty awesome. I like the *sativas*; I like the up, the energy.

You were born in Brooklyn and came from a theater background. How did you get to Hollywood?

My dad’s a surgeon, my mother was a teacher—I went to private school, found acting there. I did plays and musicals, went to Boston University for acting, and basically learned Chekhov and Shakespeare and danced around in tights—all those things that you wouldn’t normally associate with me.

I’m someone who’s considered a character

actor. You’re told you’re not going to work until you’re 35 or 40—I was only 20, so what do you do? You get with your friends and you create parts for yourself. And that’s what *The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee* was. In that musical, my character, Mr. Barféé, is essentially a 12-year-old incarnation of all of the angst I had as a kid—and all of the allergies that my brother had as a kid. I put them into this one character, and that became Mr. Barféé ... and the next thing you know, you’re winning the Tony Award for something you’ve created. And then the doors are open for your career.

What’s it like when suddenly everything changes overnight?

When I got nominated for a Tony Award, I had a lot of knocks on the door from television. Then, when I won the Tony Award, it was movies ... from Broadway to *ahhhhh!*

It was insane: “Here, do you want to do a film

with Chris Walken?” Yes, sir! “You wanna do a movie with a couple of other star people?” *Absolutely!* I was like a kid in a candy store. On the set of *Balls of Fury*, I’m running around in short shorts and a shimmering jacket on, with a ping-bong paddle and a bionic suit, and people are saying: “You won a Tony Award?”

So your new movie, *Take Me Home*—you must have seen the script and noticed that your character does a whole lot of cocaine?

Yeah. This is a disclaimer: I’ve never done cocaine in my life. I just wanted to let you know that.

Still, you looked like a pro. We were very impressed. It was powdered milk. So when you get it into your sinuses—if you’re actually crazy enough to snort it—it creates like a drip in the back of your throat, a mucousy kind of drip ... which I hear is similar to doing cocaine.



Chilling out with an apple bong in *Take Me Home Tonight*.

Yes, it is ... if memory serves.

When I read the script, I was like: "This is awesome!" I grew up in the 80s—it feels like a lost John Hughes movie. I like that my character was wound very tight and, by the end, he's totally disheveled and his hair is everywhere. He's a lunatic by the end of the movie.

Thankfully, he's hitting an apple bong by that time, too. What do you think this movie says about the '80s?

That we were naive and wild and ready to spend like crazy. We have a lot to learn looking back—and, in some ways, it seems history is repeating itself. I sense, in my friends, that there's this attitude: "The world is going to hell in a hand-basket, so let's just party our worries away." That's what seems to be going on now. Um, I'd rather they focus on trying to help change the world for the better

This is getting so deep, man! [laughing] It's a party movie, man! It's just a wild party movie.

Your character comes seems to be cut from the same cloth as those that John Belushi played. You've already played a few of these guys

Yeah, in *Good Luck Chuck*, I was the guy that liked to support grapefruits; I mean, that was kind of crazy. Then you got *Balls of Fury*—I guess he was a King Kong maniac. I guess he did go off the deep end at some point, but that was before the movie began. In *Taking Woodstock*, I'm like a free-flowing, '60s-style hippie. But I think this is the first movie where you see that iconic Belushi insanity.

Characters like these go back to Shakespearean times—like Falstaff, who is the classic big, drunken lunatic with a heart of gold. Who doesn't like playing those characters? I love the sweaty, wild, in-your-face stuff.

Do you feel you're in danger of being typecast?

No. Hollywood may typecast me because of the way I look or my size, but I feel I've done enough eclectic work—I think I've played a full spectrum of different characters ... and I hope to in the future. I have movies coming out that, I think, show my range.

You've also been cast as the late, great Sam Kinison.

Playing a sophisticated auteur of the cinema.



Yeah, that definitely falls into the category of "sex, drugs and rock n'roll." The character basically starts out as an innocent and then goes off the deep end. Many people think of Sam as a talented guy who died choking on his own vomit. You know: "Oh, Sam Kinison—he died from some kind of overdose."

The truth is, by the time that he died, he was on the road to being sober. It's not just a story about this guy who got mixed up in the sex, drugs and rock n'roll lifestyle and burned himself out; it's the tale of a fallen angel, essentially. There are so many comics out there who praise him, and they say that he was a guy who was cut off and never reached his potential—kind of like Lenny Bruce.

What else do you have in preparation?

I'm directing this movie called *Don Peyote*, which will be released at the end of this year. It's the second film I'm directing; the first one was *Hysterical Psycho*. Then I have this book, this graphic novel, *Moon Lake*, and it's like *The Twilight Zone* on

Sampling a different taste of victory.



THC. Essentially, it's an homage to everything that I grew up watching late at night: *Tales From the Crypt*, *Twilight Zone*, *Amazing Stories*, even *Heavy Metal: The Movie*. It's all in there.

Now, I'm directing the movie based on the book. It's a dream come true to me, an homage to everything that I grew up doing or watching on TV. I love comic books and graphic novels and these books, so I thought: "Why not create my own view of a graphic-novel/comic-book universe and try to do a spin-off from that?" It's just wild, zany, dark sci-fi horror.

I'm also putting together a show, kind of like *Wayne's World* on THC ... or *Pee-wee's Playhouse* on pot.

Pee-wee's Playhouse on pot? That's redundant. [Laughing] Yeah, it is.

You're only 34. Do people trust you as a director?

I think you have to be observant. It does help to have a movie already under my belt—that it's gone to festivals and it sold. So that helps. But during the first venture, even though I was working with all friends, yeah, they questioned me every step of the way. It wasn't until we got to see dailies together and saw a rough cut that they were like: "Ohhhh ... not bad."

I'm also directing myself in *Don Peyote*. Basically, what happens is my character bumps into a guy with a "The End Is Near" sign. He doesn't really have a purpose in life, so he gets obsessed with everything that the sign means. He starts collecting interviews from across the full spectrum—everyone from New Age people to economists to medical people—and he really tries to pick their brains about what they think is going to happen in the next couple of years, where we're headed as a species. But it opens up all of these different questions: Where are we from? Where are we going? Who are we? Why are we so scared of dying? It's filming in New York and LA, then in Peru and Costa Rica.

Damn, you're a busy man! This isn't stereotypical stoner behavior.

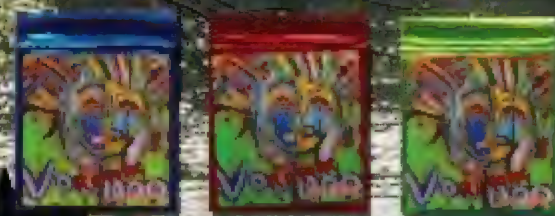
I can't sit still. Yeah, you can't really sit around and wait for the phone to ring.

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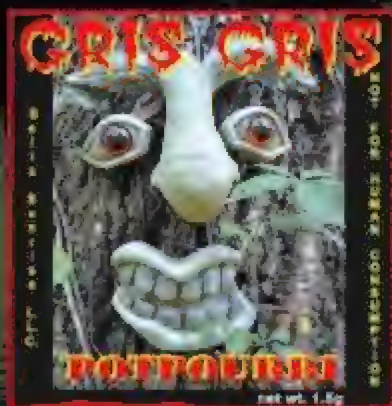
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the high times interview

Does pot help you creatively?

Ganja plus meditation enhances and basically lubricates you, allowing you to dream while you're awake. You come up with some incredible stuff that you *never* would've thought of if you weren't dabbling in THC. The more I smoke pot and the more work that I do, the more I realize that we're right about this plant. I mean, don't overdo it, but every day something new about THC is discovered. There is a spiritual communication that we are totally missing out on by shunning that world.

Where did you first discover marijuana?

In college. That's when it really started, at Boston University. In my freshman dorm, there was this kid who turned his entire room into a bong. He was an engineering student, and you opened his room and it was all black light and just billowing smoke everywhere. He had these pipes that came up from the corners of the room and rose to the ceiling. All of these people sat in the corners, like shaman people, and blew the smoke into the thing—and there it was, like this whole *network*. That guy works for NASA today.

Are you serious?

No... but I wouldn't be surprised. It was an amazing device.

I smoke a lot when I'm writing. I find that I'll smoke and be able to spit out, basically, a regurgitated play in a *weekend*. Then it's, "Oh, shit, where did *that* come from?" For a film, I make lists, lists of new ideas, and then spend the sober moments trying to sell all of that stuff. For me, pot is—it's attached to this endless well of creativity. Pot is like: "Tell the kids to come and play!"

Woody Harrelson felt that his association with pot may have impacted his career. How do you feel?

In past years, maybe ... but nowadays? *Everybody* is smoking. Woody was a pioneer; he had the balls to put it out there. And now his career seems to be stronger than ever.

What's the toughest thing about being an actor?

It's like you sign up for a ship's journey and do your best to bring everything back home, and you don't even know if anyone's ever going to see it. You put your heart and soul into something, but you have to have this kind of Buddhist philosophy. You draw something—you draw this mandala in the sand. Then the wind brushes it away, and you have to not worry about it. You just have to let it go; you have to move on to the next thing. It's hard when you're really passionate about something. You're like, "Wow, that thing is really worthy of praise, and it just sits and collects dust."

There are too many cooks in the kitchen in a lot of situations. It's not like you're a painter and you're painting with a critic—you have *nine* painters, and they're all coming in and tweaking. I watched *Hearts of Darkness*: Francis Ford Coppola was so fed up with the Hollywood system that he went off and said, "Screw it—I'm just going to make my own stuff and see my vision to its fruition."

I take that as a cue. Like Orson Wells, when I direct my things, I do *everything*—I try to keep it



Channing Jack Nicholson.

'Every day something new about THC is discovered. There is a spiritual communication that we are totally missing out on by shunning that world.'

very close to home, even pay for it out of my own pocket, because I think it's really important to see your vision in the end and not get veered off-track. You have to literally not care, because you'll have so many ups and downs along the way. You'll realize the downs suck—but in the long run, it makes for a great biography.

Herds of actors jump into the business yearly.

What advice would you give to aspiring actors?

Only do it if you know that, even if you get nothing out of it and may end up an old man with a hat, tap-dancing for money, it's all you know and it's all you love. If you're not in that mindset, you're screwed.

You say you make a point of helping out other actors.

When I got out of college, I saw conquering this business as me armed with a *Backstage* magazine and a spoon, trying to climb a glacier. Painstakingly, you make it up this hill—this glacier—and you find that it's a lot easier to do when you have friends around you.

A lot of people say, "I'm gonna fuckin' do it myself—I'm going to *make* things happen, I don't *need* anybody." You couldn't be further from the truth. It's a war, and everyone is fighting to get to the same place. You're better off grabbing the brothers and sisters around you who are in your platoon. Together, you have a better chance of making it. ✱

For more from Dan go to:



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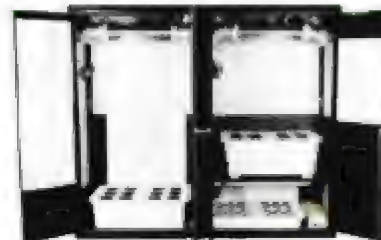
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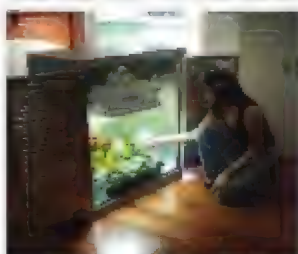
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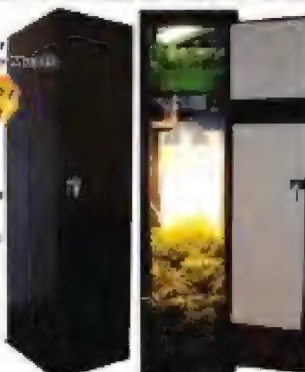
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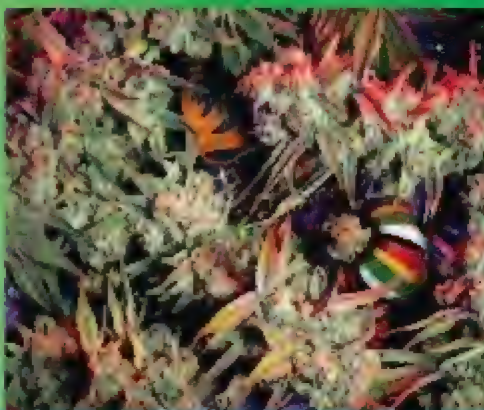
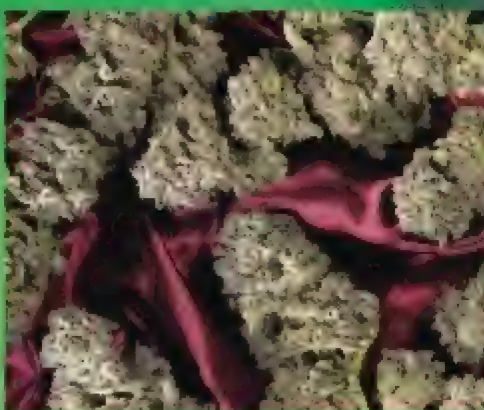
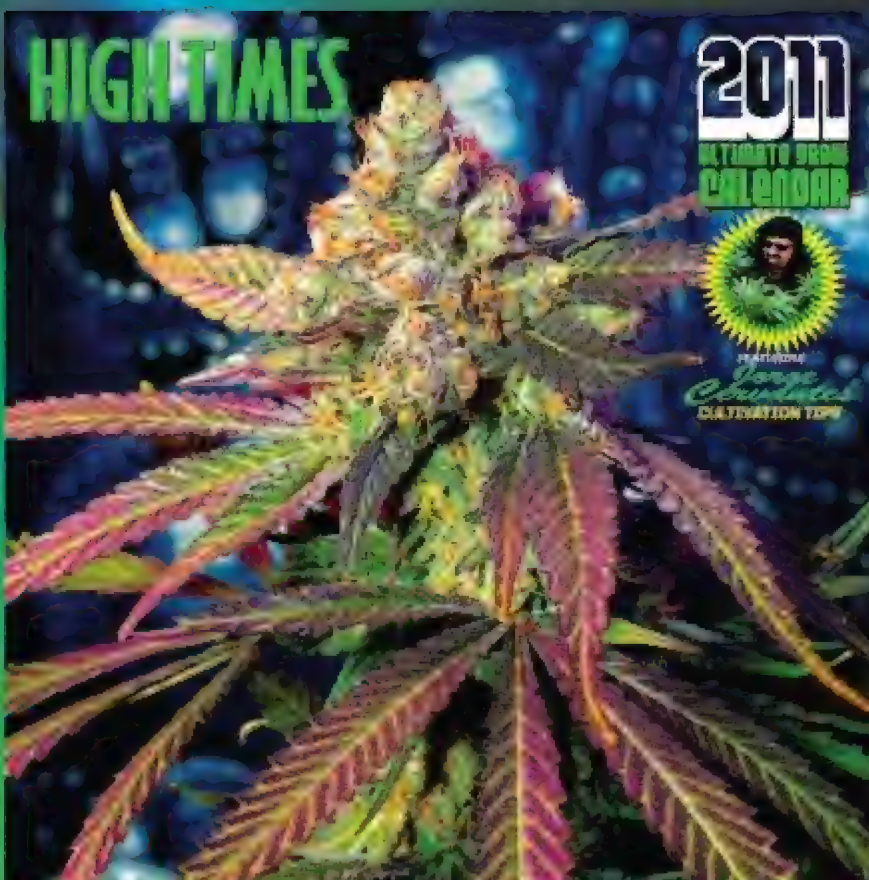
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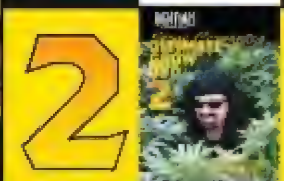
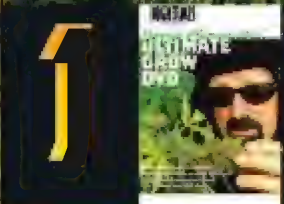
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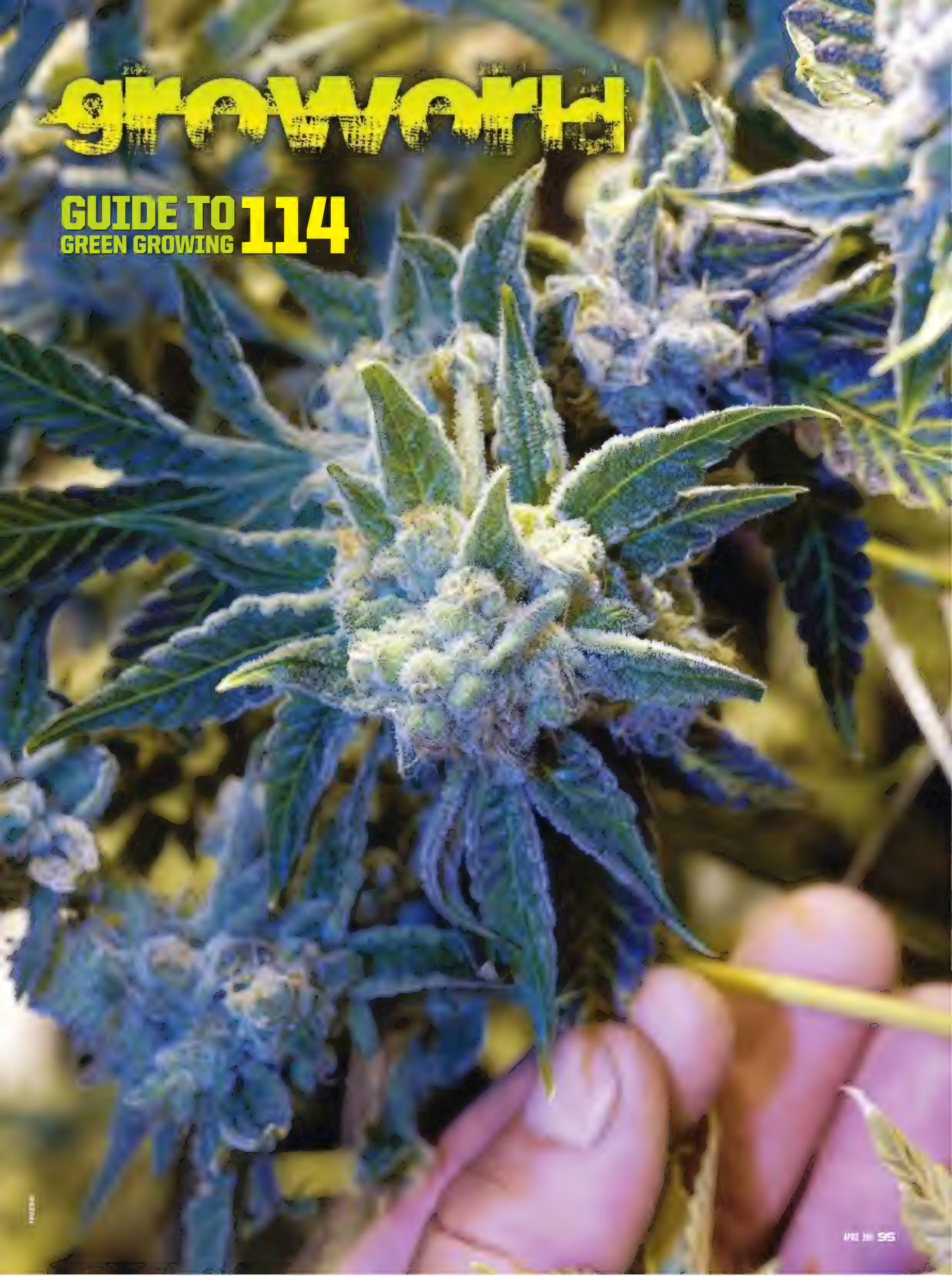
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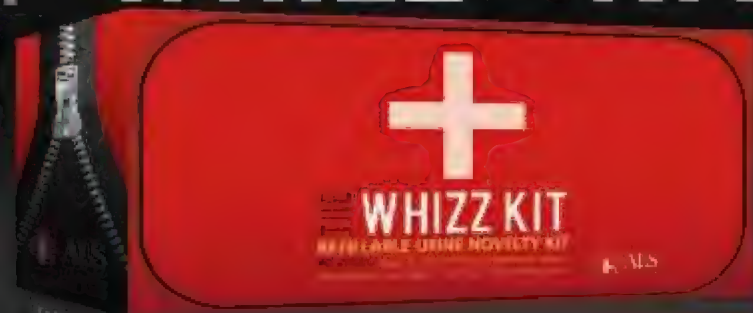
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KUSHADELICA (above)

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YOU'RE TOPS (left)

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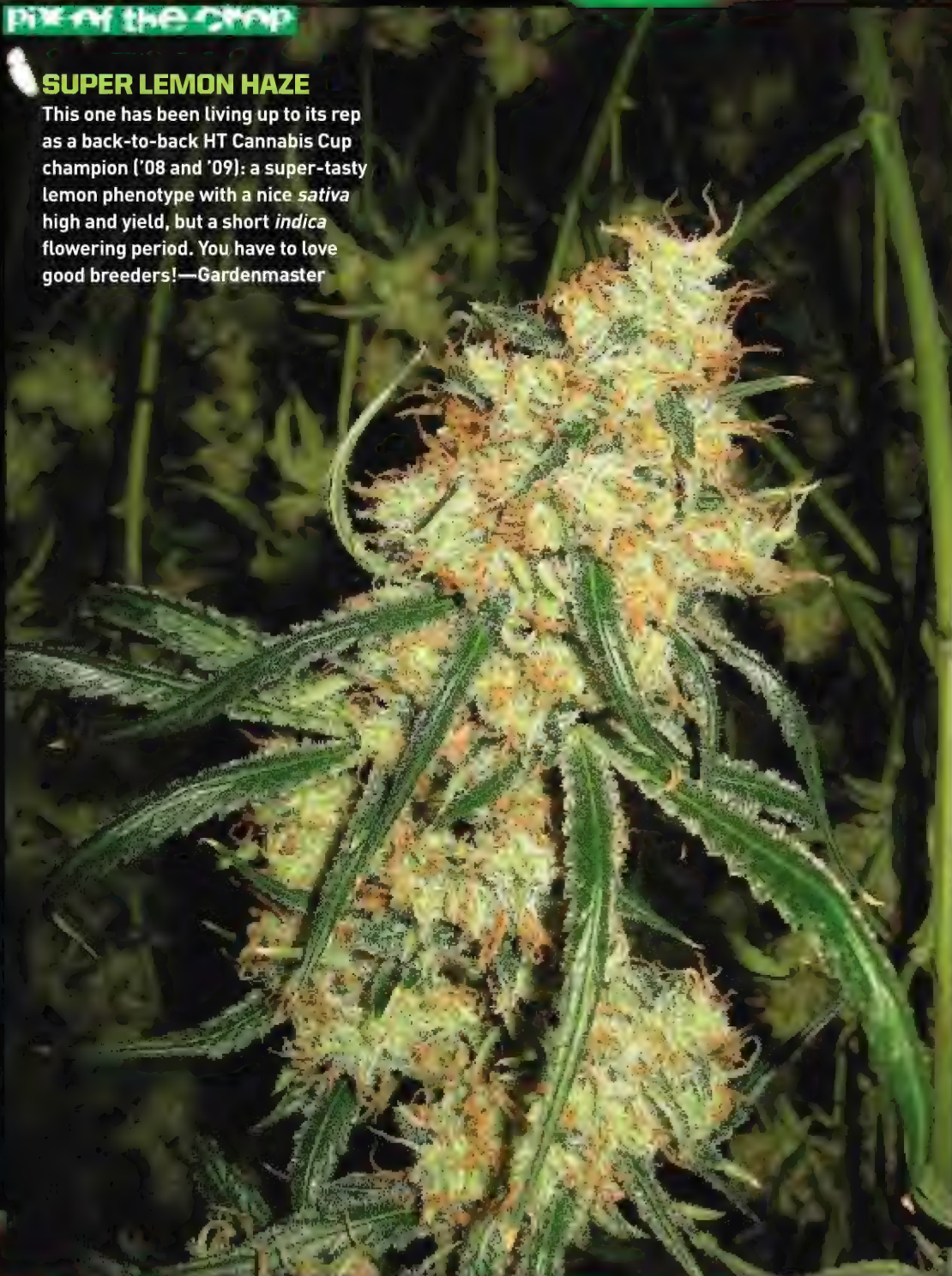
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DENVER NUGGETS (above)

Hey, HIGH TIMES! We are Karmaceuticals, a dispensary located in Denver. We wanted to shoot some pics your way of our newest strain: It's called F.I., which stands for "Fucking Incredible," and as you can see from the attached photos, these buds are huge and ... fucking incredible!!! Thanks for all of the MMJ support, and keep it up!—Karmaceuticals

BOB'S CROP (left)

This is me and my partner's outdoor garden—Mango Kush steals the show! We're two novices here in SoCal. I lost my dad on 4/20/10 to prostate cancer, and I would love to dedicate this crop and picture to him with all the passion he had for growing and our friendship. Peace and good times throughout the holiday month. Thanks so much. Girls rock!—Steph



Pix of the Crop is reader-driven. Your submissions make all the stoners of the world dream of kind nugs. Send pictures (no Polaroids), tips, questions and stories to: HIGH TIMES, 419 Park Avenue South, 16th floor, New York, NY 10016. Digital photos can be e-mailed to mailbag@hightimes.com and must be hi-res for publication. Remember, by submitting photograph(s) you thereby grant permission to the publisher to reprint photograph(s) in HIGH TIMES, as well as in any other Trans-High Corp. publication.



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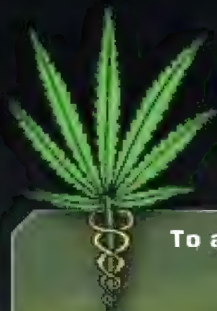
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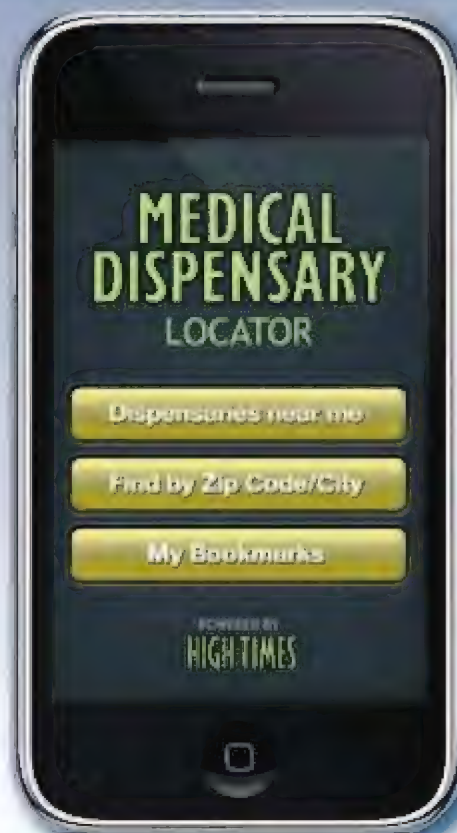
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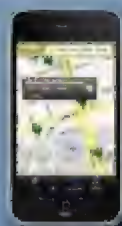


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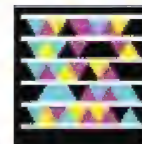
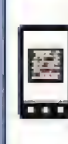
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POT AND POLITICS ON CAMPUS

Student government and marijuana activism go hand in hand.

If you're a college student, you may know something about your school's student government, but I wouldn't be surprised if you didn't. Every college and university has some sort of student government, but they're notoriously under-advertised. Student government is often seen as just a club for political-science majors, but it's much more than that. If used correctly, your student government can be among the most powerful tools for drug-law reform you have access to.

One of the most important parts of SSDP's mission is to get young people involved in the political process. Student government is viewed as the official voice of the student body, and it's an excellent way to get civically engaged. Not only will the school administration listen to the student government's concerns, but local and state officials often pay attention as well. Getting your student government to support drug-policy reform can help push the issue to the top of your state legislature's agenda, and it can even influence the federal government. For example, the UConn student government joined dozens of other colleges in condemning the Higher Education Act's aid-elimination penalty for people with drug arrests, helping convince lawmakers to scale back that provision.

Most student governments also have huge budgets at their disposal. At UConn, our student government has an annual budget of \$1.4 million. That's not a typo: We get to decide how to spend nearly one and



Getting your student government to support drug-policy reform can help push the issue to the top of your state legislature's agenda.

reform activists into your student government.

That may sound difficult at first, but it really isn't: We've had SSDPs win their races with only four votes. Last year, I ran for a position in which seven people were competing for eight seats. Because barely anyone runs—or votes—it's very easy to get elected if you can put together a small group of motivated activists to campaign for you.

UConn SSDP currently has 17 members who hold seats in our student government. Having this much representation has lined us up to make great progress in the spring. We have more elections coming up next semester, and I bet your school does, too. If you want to make real change, both on campus and in your state, run for student government. —Sam Tracy, president of UConn SSDP

a half million dollars per year. We've used this money to create harm-reduction programs such as GUARD Dogs, a group of volunteers who provide sober rides to students on weekends. Last year, UConn's student government paid the full cost—nearly \$6,000—for eight of our members to go to San Francisco for the SSDP 2010 National Conference. The application for funding was actually denied at first, but our SSDP chapter had many members who also served in the student government, and they were able to overturn the decision and get the funding. This is why it's incredibly important to get drug-policy

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Evan Nison leads a new generation of cannabis activists while in college.

Like every HIGH TIMES Freedom Fighter of the month, the latest activist to earn our high honor has worked incredibly hard to make marijuana legal. What's remarkable about Evan Nison is how much he's accomplished before he's even legal to drink.

A junior at Ithaca College in New York State, Evan will turn 21 this month and has already made a name for himself by advocating for legalization on both coasts. In New Jersey, he's the Ballot Initiatives Coordinator for the statewide NORML chapter, where he recruited a team of Rutgers students to try to put a "lowest law enforcement priority for marijuana" initiative on the ballot in their college town. Those students went on to form the Rutgers University Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) chapter.

In New York, Evan is president of Ithaca College's SSDP, which earned recognition in this magazine as the number one drug law reform school in America. Evan also co-founded and directed NY Patients First (now NY Cannabis Alliance), which almost succeeded in passing medical marijuana as part of the state budget before being thwarted by the governor. The group sponsored pro-cannabis billboards and held many press conferences at the statehouse in Albany.

If that weren't enough, Evan took a semester off to be the Deputy Field Director and the Campus Organizer for the Yes on 19 legalization campaign in California, where he built and maintained the field teams and helped run the campaign's statewide campus outreach effort in over 40 schools.

So happy birthday Evan, we're sure you'll celebrate in high style!—Russ Belville
Listen to NORML's daily audio podcast at stash.norml.org.



ask dr. mitch

Dr. Mitch,
Does cannabidiol fight cancer?

Ryan Song

Hi Ryan,

Yes. A recent study reveals that CBD can slow the growth of breast-cancer cells in mice. This is a great breakthrough, especially since most other cancer treatments—such as radiation or noxious chemicals—are somewhat poisonous to the human body. But CBD is nontoxic, so if it works in humans, our medicine will only improve.

A guy who got busted for a big grow claimed that he was giving the weed to his horses. Does this make sense?

Secret Terry

Hi Terry,

I'm no veterinarian, but giving cannabis to horses has a long history. Rabelais wrote about it back in the 1500s. He describes the plant quite accurately, right down to the smell, and recommends it as a cure for colicky horses. Nevertheless, I doubt the cops bought this explanation.

Has any research ever shown that fake pot like K2 and Spice is actually dangerous?

Sly Stone

Hi Sly,

Not really, though we know the various numbered JWH compounds that make these substances psychoactive can hit the cannabinoid receptors hard, and there have also been several reports of adverse reactions, with some of them getting pretty nasty. Of course, these never would have appeared on the market in the first place if we taxed and regulated you-know-what!

Everybody rants about marijuana keeping kids from graduating high school. I think it's more that kids who hate school are using marijuana.

Mark Thackeray

Hi Mark,

We've known for decades that teens who use marijuana might have lower grades, but the evidence also shows that their grades were lower *before* they started smoking. New work confirms that students who dislike school are more likely to use cannabis. The best way to prevent drug use in teens might be to make our schools better.

Dr. Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of *Understanding Marijuana* and *The Parents' Guide to Marijuana*. Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at 420research@gmail.com.



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CANNA GLYCERIN

A healthy alternative to butter- and oil-based edibles. By Chef Mike

As a professional cannabis chef, I've had the pleasure of learning and testing various methods of extraction. I started with the usual: cannabis butter, cannabis-infused cooking oils (olive, canola, grapeseed), etc. I created sweet treats and various sugary delights. When our collective started to learn how to take care of patients, we had the honor of meeting Jack Herer at a NORML convention. I was immediately excited and offered my confections to him. His first response changed my whole career: "I'm a diabetic, and I need something with the *least* amount of sugar!" I had almost nothing to offer him.

After that conference, I went home with my new friend in mind. How could I make edibles healthy? Was there a way I could reduce sugar, increase potency, and still have the end product not taste like cannabis? I finally got hold of some glycerin. My main interest in it was that it's really good for diabetics to eat: As a sugar substitute, it has approximately 27 calories per teaspoon and is 60 percent as sweet as sucrose. More importantly, although it has about the same food energy as table sugar, it doesn't raise blood-sugar levels, nor does it feed the bacteria that form plaques and cause dental cavities.

Once I obtained the glycerin, I went right into the kitchen and started creating a tincture. I got several batches ready for the traditional method (soaking the plant material in glycerin for several weeks). I had also heard of a method of low-heat extraction, so I got a batch ready on the stove using full-flower OG Kush buds (finely ground) and enough glycerin to cover them by an inch in a stainless-steel bowl. I got another large pot and filled it with water to create a double-boiler set-up. I let this mixture cook slowly at 165°F for three days until the glycerin took on a dark amber color. When the glycerin mixture was ready, I strained it through a cheesecloth and pressed the plant material as tightly as possible to release as much glycerin as I could.

The THC-laden glycerin now had the consistency of honey. I tasted it and found that its sweetness was accented by the taste of the OG Kush flowers. I immediately produced items for the collective in which I replaced the sugar component with the glycerin; I also made every dish I could think of that called for agave nectar or honey. I was very intrigued by the complexity of the flavors I could create—I even incorporated it into savory dishes. Using the cannabis-infused glycerin, I could transform almost any dish into a medicinal one: I made glazes, dipping sauces, sweet-and-sour and gastric sauces. I found that, when making hard candy, if you add the glycerin at the right temperature (just as it slightly cools), it will protect the THC and give your candies a beautiful color and taste.

Thanks for the inspiration, Jack! ✨



Bacon-Wrapped Pork Tenderloin With Mango-Chipotle Glaze

2 pork tenderloins
Thinly sliced bacon
Boursin cheese
Sea salt
Cracked black pepper
Mango-chipotle glaze (recipe follows)

First, wash your tenderloins and pat them dry with paper towels. Next, cut small slits into each tenderloin to make a small pocket for the Boursin cheese. Stuff a generous portion of cheese into both tenderloins and, once that's done, wrap the loins with bacon. (Be sure to pull it tight and wrap up the whole thing.)

Place the tenderloins in the oven at 350°F for about 30 minutes, depending on size. The bacon should crisp up and create a wonderful crust. Once the bacon is ready, begin to glaze the loins.

Once your tenderloins are cooked, pull them out onto your cutting board and let them rest for 10 to 15 minutes. When your meat is fully rested, take a sharp knife, slice thinly and serve!

Mango-Chipotle Glaze

1 cup mango juice
2 cups cider vinegar
1 can (7 oz) chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, puréed in the blender or finely chopped
1 cup soy sauce
7 cups sugar
1 cup medicated glycerin

In a heavy 3-gallon non-reactive stockpot, reduce the mango juice to a quarter of a cup. Add the remaining ingredients and cook over medium-high heat until the sugar has melted and the sauce has reduced to 4 cups and coats the back of a spoon (about 20 to 30 minutes). Then fold in the medicated glycerin and let cool. The sauce should be thick and ready to use. (Note: Be sure to use a large pot as specified, and also watch carefully while reducing the glaze—it has a tendency to overboil!) **Stones 4.**

Read more from Chef Mike at
hightimes.com/blog/housemusicchef.

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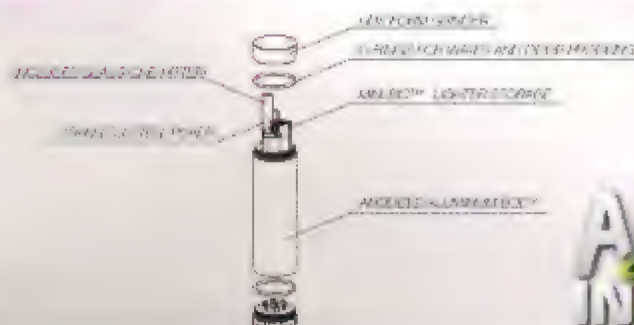
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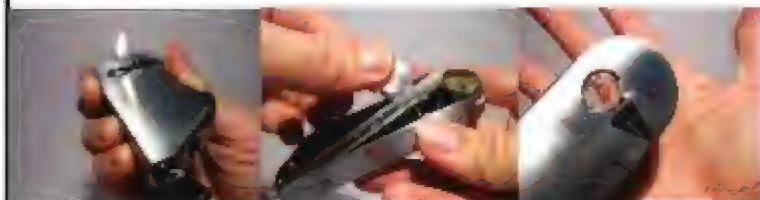


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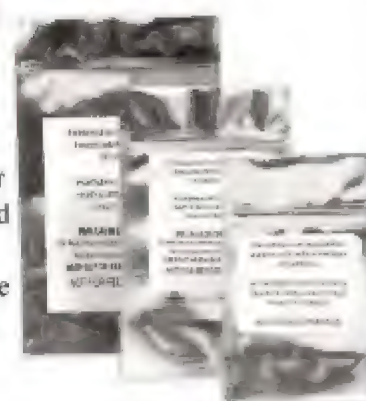
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The "What about the children?" argument fans the flames of fear among voters.

Nothing has dogged cannabis-law reformers more during this 40-year-old civil-justice movement than the unjustified but politically damaging charge that legalizing marijuana will put children in danger. Naturally, the government has been all too eager to hype parental concerns about legalizing this mildly psychoactive herb as a way to keep its failed policy of cannabis prohibition viable decades beyond the dozen or so years that alcohol prohibition lasted.

Both Democrats and Republicans intent on maintaining the status quo of cannabis prohibition will continue to push the "What about the children?" button for as long as it continues to fan the flames of fear among voters, the media and law enforcement. Increasingly, Americans have come to realize that the best way to prevent underage people from using marijuana is by creating a tightly controlled and regulated market for adult use rather than letting drug dealers decide who's old enough to buy. But this is a case we must continue to make.

Exit polling from this past November's Proposition 19 initiative in California revealed, yet again, that parental concerns about *what* legalization would look like and *how* it could impact their children's lives remain important questions that need to be better answered by reform proponents. In fact, so entrenched are parental concerns about legalizing cannabis that, over NORML's 40 years of tracking public opinion about cannabis-law reform, a clear trend has emerged: From their mid-twenties until their early fifties, Americans who once supported legalization ceased doing so en masse as they entered their parenting years. However, encouragingly, as our country heads toward the end of the baby-boomer-dominated epoch, Americans in their mid-fifties (i.e., past the age of parenting) have begun to support cannabis

legalization again, notably—and not too surprisingly—for *medicinal* purposes.

In sum, for total legalization to gain political legs in our statehouses and in Congress, parents between the ages of 25 and 55 need to be less oppositional when it comes to ending cannabis prohibition. What can be done to close this important (and, for reformers, strategic) deficit?

For starters, cannabis consumers need to *not* do truly stupid and reckless things like recording their very young children on camera exposed to cannabis or cannabis smoke; or keeping kids home from school to harvest marijuana crops; or employing young children and teens as "mules" to unsuspectingly move cannabis. Second, the makers of cannabis-related products need to be über-conscious regarding *how* they market their wares. In the last few years, prohibitionists have seized upon cannabis-infused gumballs, mockups of popular candy brands, colorful soda products (a few years ago, a company marketed a line called Bongwater Soda with flavors like "Rastaberry," "Banana Spliff" and "Ganja Grape") and even lollipop pipes.

Also, cannabis-infused edibles must be kept away from children in the same manner that parents largely (and without controversy) secure alcohol and pharmaceutical products.

Bottom line: Parents will continue to oppose legalization if they believe that reform will make the already tough job of raising children even harder, or that cannabis legalization presents some kind of genuine risk to their kids. We must work to make them realize that the greatest risk to their children comes from prohibition instead. —Allen St. Pierre

Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org.

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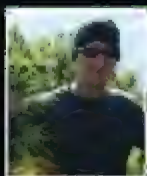
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LIFE FOR POT

By Chris Simunek

With medical pot legal in 15 states, Proposition 19's oh-so-narrow defeat in California, and a steady stream of positive media stories regarding marijuana, people simply cannot comprehend the fact that there are human beings in prison doing life without parole for nonviolent marijuana offenses. This, at least, has been Beth Curtis's experience when she informs people of her work chronicling the plight of these forgotten Drug War prisoners.

"There is no judgment ... simply disbelief," she says. "People do not believe that anyone receives a sentence of life without parole unless there's a dead body. They certainly do not believe that nonviolent, marijuana-only offenders are serving life without parole."

Beth knows a bit about the subject: Her brother, John Knock, was sentenced in 2000 to two life terms in prison—*plus 20 years*—for his part in a decade-spanning conspiracy to import multiple tons of pot and hashish from Pakistan and Lebanon into the US and Canada. Though he helped create the ring that he was the accused "kingpin" of, John had retired from smuggling and was living in Hawaii at the time of his indictment, far away from the action. Thanks to a bizarre maze of legal maneuverings, he was tried in Florida—a state in which he'd never lived, let alone committed any crime in. John was never recorded or even seen by law-enforcement agents committing the crimes he was convicted of, nor was marijuana ever found in his possession; his prosecution was based solely upon the testimony of informants.

As Beth explains on the website johnknock.com: "One frightened and compromised witness after another tried to testify in a way that would match their plea agreement and/or would give them a share of the forfeiture."

Beth's investigation into the sentences of other nonviolent marijuana "kingpins" led her to the conclusion that there are obvious and egregious charging and sentencing disparities in this country, where one man can get sentenced to 10 years and another man can get sentenced to life—for the same crime. On johnknock.com, she lists 22 big-time smugglers who served between 10 and 20 years and are all free men now. On that list is William Shaffer, once called "the world's biggest drug kingpin." Then there's Michael Medjuck, who was sentenced in 1991 to 24 years for the largest shipment of marijuana ever intercepted at the time (70 tons from Afghanistan); he was released in 2004.

Perhaps most striking is the story of Bruce Per-

John Knock was sentenced in 2000 to two life terms in prison—*plus 20 years*—for his part in a decade-spanning conspiracy to import multiple tons of pot and hashish from Pakistan and Lebanon.



John Knock and his wife in happier times.

lowin, who was caught with 500,000 pounds and wound up doing eight years. Bruce is now the chairman of Medical Marijuana Inc.; on his website, he proclaims himself the "king of pot," a person who ran "the biggest and most sophisticated marijuana smuggling organization in California history."

No one begrudges these men their freedom, but the question must be asked: Why are they free while others are doing life? "The only explanation could be that there was some kind of charging disparity," Beth says. "Of course there was."

Believing that her brother John had received the harshest-ever sentence for nonviolent marijuana

crimes, Beth began tracking down other inmates who'd received similar sentences. There are currently a dozen such people listed on her new website, Life for Pot (lifeforpot.com). While none of them received the two life terms plus 20 that John did, they are all doing life without parole.

"I knew that John had not lost his humanity, but I've been astonished about the others who have contacted me," Beth says. "Those I've heard from are a remarkable group of men. Eugene Fischer joined the Peace Corps after he graduated from Farleigh Dickenson; his time as an inmate has been spent doing similar humanitarian work. Eugene has taught classes to inmates throughout his time in prison. He has written plays and poetry, mentored countless young men. Eugene and another inmate featured on the site, George Martorano, were together for six years and worked in the NAACP chapter at USP Coleman. They sent a commission to the Congressional Black Caucus to plead for help. Kenny Kubinski—another inmate on the Life for Pot site—also helped with this project."

The new site is just beginning to take off, and Beth would like to hear from anyone who knows of a prisoner currently serving life without parole for nonviolent marijuana offenses. Her work is about as grassroots as you can get, but it's welcomed and appreciated by those trapped in the system with little hope of release, as evidenced in this note sent to her by Eugene Fischer:

"People like you and my family could be a salvation to change this inhumane system. Good Americans must speak up and educate the rest of this country. I really believe that most Americans simply don't know what has happened." ✨

Contact Beth at johnknock@johnknock.com.

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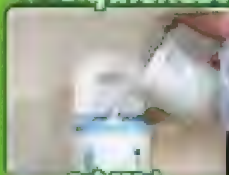


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HOW GREEN IS YOUR GRASS?

Cannabis cultivation should honor Mother Earth, but the War on Marijuana turns farmers into criminals and leaves the environment caught in the crossfire. By David Bienenstock

In December, the US House of Representatives voted almost unanimously to pass Resolution 1540, urging federal law enforcement agencies to work together on a plan to eliminate illegal marijuana growing from public lands.

"Our national forests should be a safe haven for families and recreation enthusiasts, not Mexican drug cartels," Republican Wally Herger of Chico, California, who sponsored the resolution, commented. "The American people should not have to fear for their safety while on a family camping trip."

Agreed. Of course, while Herger's plan basically called for the DEA, Homeland Security, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service to put their heads together on how more of the same would yield a different result, one member of the House revealed to his fellow congress members that he shares the same goal, but wants a different approach—one with the added benefit of possibly working.

"As long as [marijuana] remains illegal and as long as there is a market demand, the production will be driven underground," Colorado Democrat Jared Polis explained, helpfully suggesting sensible regulation rather than more prohibition as the reasonable way forward. "No matter how much we throw at enforcement, [illegal growers] will continue to be a threat not only to our Federal lands, but to our border security and to our safety within our country."

In fact, increased enforcement is the reason these operations exist in the first place. Perhaps a more detailed history lesson will help make that case.

When the first rush of back-to-the-land hippies reached California's fabled Humboldt County in the 1960s, they arrived as utopian exiles and vowed to live off the land as respectfully as possible. The locals, meanwhile, had already seen the twin pillars of their economy largely decimated due to shortsighted greed and the misuse of natural resources. Timber and salmon could have provided a sustainable way of life for the hardworking inhabitants of Humboldt County for generations to come, but instead the lumber companies and fisheries opted to make a quick buck and move on. In fact, the primary reason those early longhair homesteaders could afford to buy land to go back to was the nosedive in local property values that took place after all the best trees were cut down and the once-abundant salmon started struggling just to survive.

Still, despite their high-minded idealism, many of those hippies hailed from urban or suburban backgrounds that left them ill-prepared to be farmers, and even those with a little dirt under their fingernails quickly discovered that truly living off the land often proved difficult in the extreme. At least until they found a cash crop....



A mixed use garden produces cannabis and food while conserving natural resources and protecting the land.



From the early days of reefer-smoking jazz cats all the way to the election of Richard Nixon, the overwhelming majority of America's marijuana came from Mexico and points south, where the climate suited legendary *sativas* like Acapulco Gold and Punta Roja. But when the newly launched War on Marijuana started to cut off foreign supply lines, innovative heads in Northern California figured out how to crossbreed those familiar strains with the exotic *indica* seeds that their wandering brethren brought back from India, Afghanistan and Nepal, creating all-new hybrids that would flourish right in their own backyards—and, suddenly, a multibillion-dollar homegrown industry was born.

The ecological aftermath of an illegal grow on federal land often requires intense remediation.



How did we go from the Age of Aquarius to diesel-powered, industrial-sized marijuana factories?

they tried to live their lives and raise their children amid an ongoing conflict. Long prison sentences for peaceful potheads quickly changed the mindset of many local marijuana growers from “making a living” to “making a killing.” After all, who could afford to take the risk besides those interested in a big return on their investment? Increased enforcement only drove up prices and attracted outsiders and mercenaries, creating an incentive for ever larger and more sophisticated operations, including moving “the garden” entirely indoors to help avoid detection while reaping multiple harvests per year. Over time, marijuana farming in Humboldt County started to change from a higher calling to an act of insurrection.

This new breed of guerrilla grower also lived off the land, but only long enough to complete their mission and move on, or at least lay low until next year's planting. In 2004, federal agents eradicated approximately 700,000 marijuana plants clandestinely cultivated on Forest Service land. By 2008, that number had reached nearly *three million*.

Due to the desire for a remote location beyond easy detection, these grow ops are often set up in particularly pristine and environmentally sensitive wilderness areas. And whether they succeed or fail, get caught or get over, what's left behind can include miles of PVC irrigation pipes, dangerous levels of runoff from chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and piles of trash and human excrement. The largest grows, often overseen by Mexican drug cartels, also divert streams to water crops and spread poisons to kill rodents, making the land far more vulnerable to drought and fire, destroying the habitat of fish and amphibians, and even killing larger predators like foxes, coyotes and bobcats that eat the poisoned prey.

Typically, all of this goes down on public land, including federal and state parks ostensibly protected from any development due to their beauty and ecological importance. While law-enforcement groups, including the DEA, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, will gladly pursue active growers into these backwoods by

So how did we go from the Age of Aquarius to diesel-powered, industrial-sized marijuana factories dotting remote hillsides and massive, chemical-fed, pesticide-soaked pot plantations slashed and burned into the middle of ecologically sensitive backcountry? In a word: *prohibition*. For however much those early homesteaders wanted to retreat from “the system” and into their bucolic hermitage, the one plant they relied on to make ends meet brought them right back into direct conflict with authority.

Like Vietnamese villagers, the Humboldt County cannabis pioneers feared helicopter raids and armed, uniformed men as



Cannabis plants have the potential to heal the planet, but only when grown responsibly.

any means necessary to make arrests or destroy pot plants, none of them want to take responsibility for dealing with the aftermath.

Shane Krogan, the founder of the High Sierra Volunteer Trail Crew, says that restoring grow sites in his neck of the woods currently takes up more than half of his group's resources, but they still lack the money, manpower and time required to remediate all the sites they know about—not to mention the many others that will never even be discovered.

"We do it because drug cartels have no concern for the damage they inflict on the land," Krogan says.

HIGH TIMES believes that the cannabis community—particularly those profiting off the production or distribution of this plant—should be at the forefront of addressing the issue and cleaning up the mess.

Grow It in the Sun is a local Humboldt organization formed in 2008 to address the negative environmental impacts of marijuana production, starting with the threat of diesel spills and brush fires caused by warehouse-sized "off the grid" sheds. While stressing the need to return to sustainable, outdoor, organic cultivation practices, the group also organized a public-service campaign asking local diesel growers to—at the very least—install containment units on their generators to prevent leaks and spills, and to stop operating altogether during the hot, dry summer months. It was a touchy subject to broach behind "the Redwood Curtain," where pot growing has long been established as the biggest game in town, and where an ingrained outlaw culture discourages acknowledging any problems.

"Cannabis consumers need to know that every sparkly green nugget has a story to go with it, depending on how it was produced," a Grow It in the Sun spokesperson explains. "They need to start asking their suppliers how their weed was grown and demanding best practices—namely organic, outdoor, small-scale, water-conscious bud raised on locally sourced fertilizers and natural sunlight."

Even marijuana cultivated indoors on a far smaller scale can have a shock-

ingly large carbon footprint due to the use of high-intensity lights, with the average growroom generating around a ton of carbon dioxide for every pound of marijuana produced. Researchers at Humboldt State University's Schatz Energy Research Center found that the county's per capita "on the grid" electrical consumption increased by 30 percent in the last 15 years, even as the rest of the state held steady—a power surge they pinned largely on indoor pot production. And that 30 percent rise doesn't include the many diesel-powered grows.

While prohibition makes it difficult for most consumers to trace their herb back to its source, Grow It in the Sun believes that until cannabis is a fully legalized and regulated industry, it's mainly up to individual consumers to demand a more ecologically friendly product from the market—starting with rejecting the false notion that sun-grown bud can't compete with indoor.

In California, several cultivation collectives have already been formed to supply sustainably grown, fully organic, connoisseur-quality medical marijuana direct from small-scale family farmers. And a range of third-party certifiers now adds their seal of approval to medical cannabis that's verifiably grown to organic standards. Unfortunately, not everyone has those kinds of options—yet.

Ultimately, returning the culture of marijuana growing to its idealistic roots will require a fundamental shift in society's approach to this most beneficent plant. Legalization will ultimately take away the financial incentive behind many of the worst practices—just as nobody currently plants wine grapes in a national forest or under 1,000-watt lights. In the meantime, individuals who choose to express their inalienable right to cultivate cannabis must take responsibility for their decisions and strive to honor this natural herb by tending to it in a way that's ethical, sustainable, and in tune with the green world all around us.

To that end, here's a quick overview of a few environmental issues facing cannabis growers, along with some advice on how to make the grass growing on your side of the fence as green as possible:

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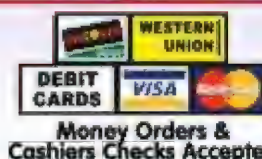
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This photo should help free your mind from the false notion that sun grown cannabis can't compete with indoor buds.

DIESEL DOPE

One of Grow It in the Sun's early campaigns advised tokers and growers to "Just Say No to Diesel Dope," as nothing can really justify the pollution, noise and disruption that a massive, diesel-powered grow op brings to a remote area. Containment units, bio-diesel conversions and taking off for the summer all lessen the risks and overall impact—but wouldn't it be better to make the transition to outdoor now and find yourself ahead of the curve when pot prices continue to slide, even as energy costs skyrocket?

HIGH-INTENSITY LIGHTS

If necessity finds you cultivating cannabis under artificial lights, doing so in the most efficient manner possible will not only lower your environmental impact, it will save you some green as well in the form of lower energy bills. Make sure you have properly functioning equipment of the optimal wattage, keep your lights clean and well-maintained, and be sure to position them over your plants in a way that will produce the most grams per kilowatt burned. Also, run your lights at night when reduced demand on the grid lowers prices, and (again) take the summer off!

ORGANIC INPUTS

Find local, organic sources of soil, nutrients and pesticides, and consider maintaining your own compost pile. Remember, pretty much everything sold at the hydro store can be replaced by something less expensive, fully organic and locally produced.

FERTILIZER RUNOFF

When using fertilizer of any kind, always remember that giving your plants a little more than they need doesn't make them grow faster—it actually hurts them, and also leads to runoff that's literally money down the drain indoors. Outdoors, overused chemical fertilizers can build up in the water table, damaging the local ecosystem. Compost tea presents a renewable, low-cost and highly effective option for feeding your plants without the risk of chemical residue.

WATER

Mary Jane can be a thirsty lady, particularly if she's grown under full sun in a hot climate or mere inches away from 1,000-watt bulbs. Again, using water efficiently is a matter of saving money while doing the right thing. Always water in the cool of the morning or evening, when roots can soak up moisture without much evaporation—or, better yet, use a drip emitter to give them just what they need a little at a time. Collecting rainwater in barrels also conserves local sources and protects your bottom line. ✱

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DEAR DANKO

ANSWERS BY DANNY DANKO



NOT NODES

Hello, friend! I have a question regarding a female Cali Orange plant that's about four weeks from harvest. I noticed that on the leaves near the top, the plant is sprouting nodes. It's the craziest thing I've ever seen: Right where the leaf starts to grow its "fingers," there are pistils growing. What should I do? Please help.

Dylan H.

Dear Dylan,

First you describe "nodes," but then you call them "pistils." If the thing you're seeing is a teardrop-shaped calyx at the point where the leaf meets the main stem, then you're only seeing pre-flowers, and all is well. If, however, you're seeing actual green shoots growing out of the area during flowering, then you've shocked the plant back into its vegetative stage by interrupting the 12-hour dark cycle with light.

Once shocked with light during the dark cycle, the plant becomes confused and reverts back to the earlier stage of life. This can be disastrous to your harvest if it happens too soon during flowering, but it sounds like, with only four weeks left, you should be able to salvage some usable buds from your plants. If not, make hash out of everything and start over fresh with no interruption of the dark cycle.

FLUSHING QUEENS

How does one know when to start the final flush and when to harvest? A friend gave me two clones and we started some seeds as well. The trichomes on the clones are starting to change quickly, but the ones we started from seed haven't changed at all. We're only 30 days into flowering. Is it true that if 50 percent of the trichomes are an amber color, they're ready to harvest? Can one strain be done a week or two before another? Thanks!

3D

Dear 3D,

Different strains have different flowering times—typically from seven to eight weeks for *indicas* and up to 10 or 12 weeks for *sativas*. (A few hard-to-find pure *sativas* can flower for 14-plus weeks.) Flushing, or leaching the plant's medium with plain water, should begin about two weeks prior to harvest. Clones will reach maturity faster because they're further along in their growth cycle than seeds.

If you're looking through a loupe or microscope at the trichome heads, they should appear mostly cloudy, with a few being amber for full potency. Letting them go longer will result in a more lethargic stone, as the THC degrades and CBN and CBD rates increase.

YOU'RE TOO TENTS

I just got a 4' x 4' grow tent. I was wondering if it would be better to grow 16 plants, each in a 1-square-foot area, or nine plants in a 16-square-foot area? I am growing *indica/sativa* mixes, all with nine-week flowering times, and I am vegging them for one month. Thanks for all the great help over the years!

AJ

Dear AJ,

Due to the month-long vegetative time, you should consider growing fewer plants and giving them more space to fill out; therefore, I would recommend your nine-plant scenario over the 16-plant setup. Be sure to use large containers for each plant so that their roots have plenty of room to develop and thrive. I would go with 3-gallon containers or larger for the space you have. Also, topping or training the plants as they veg will result in a bigger harvest when the flowering has finished. Good luck!

BOXED IN

Greetings! I've recently been working with the strain White Russian from Serious Seeds in a BC Northern Lights Bloombox. I had a few issues finding the proper nitrogen strength during the vegetative stage and have recently flushed and

Grow tents provide stealth while being easy to set up and take down.



HIGH TIMES

PRESENTS



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Thai Sticks wrapped and bundled near Bangkok.

switched to flowering. The new leaves are perfectly balanced and going up as though they're praying, but the older leaves look wilted and seem to be dying. I'm not sure what to do at this point because I can't distinguish if they're flourishing or suffering. Thanks for your time and help. Cheers!

Cow C.

Dear CC,
Sounds like whatever nutrient problem you had has been dealt with due to your flushing of the medium. If the new growth looks healthy, then you're on the right track. The older growth that was affected will continue to suffer and your overall yield will no doubt be lower, but be happy that you solved the problem and focus on proper feeding throughout the flowering period, and you'll still have plenty to show for your efforts in the end.

COOL BREEZE

I want to start an indoor growroom. I'm hooking up an exhaust fan that pulls stale air out of the room and draws in fresh air from the outside. My problem is this: When temperatures reach 30°F and I'm pulling in outside air, how do I keep the room at a toasty 76°F?

John

Dear John,
Most indoor growers find that hot temperatures

are more of a problem than cold ones. This is because high-intensity discharge (HID) lighting such as high-pressure sodium (HPS) and metal halide (MH) create a lot of heat during their operation.

If you do have an issue with the air being too cold, whether it's during the dark cycle of flowering or for plants that are too close to your intake area during daylight hours, add a portable heater to the room on a thermostat and it will keep everything as toasty as it needs to be. Aim for temps between 65°F and 75°F for best results during both the nighttime and daytime periods of growth.

MY REGENERATION

I picked some bud and leaf but left a lot on my plant to try to turn it around back to the vegetative stage. Now my leaves are turning yellow and it looks like the whole plant is dying. Can you explain the process and how to save the plant? It worked for me one year, but not this last one.

Be Green

Dear BG,
Regenerating a plant back to its vegetative stage can be a frustrating process. First off, you must leave some leaves on after harvest and then place the plant indoors under 18 to 22 hours of light per day. You should see new shoots popping out within a month or so, but be patient and water when necessary.

The only reason to go through regeneration is to save a strain for future use. Even under perfect conditions, you're not going to harvest nearly as much from the regenerated plant as you did the first time. I recommend growing plants from seeds or clones and forgoing regeneration except in cases of extreme need.

DUDE LOOKS LIKE A LADY

Please help me with a few questions:

1. If a female plant turns out to have male pollen sacs (bisexual) and is cloned, will that clone be the same? Should I separate it from the other females? She (or he) is a great plant.
2. Once I've collected pollen from a great male, how do I create seeds?
3. If I only want a few plants at a time, can I continually clone them without losing anything (i.e., THC, CBD, taste, quantity, appearance, aroma)?

Thanks for your incredible magazine. I'm a new farmer and waiting for the results of my first-ever grow. I only have a few plants, but I'm very excited about harvesting them.

D. in TN

Dear D.,

1. Rid your garden of any female plants that show male pollen sacs at once! These are hermaphrodites and they have the ability to pollinate your other females, leaving you with a harvest full of almost useless seeds. Any clones of a hermaphroditic plant will be hermaphrodites as well. Find a more stable version of the same strain, or experiment with the resulting seeds to try to backcross the strain and then choose only the pure females from the progeny. This isn't recommended for beginners; breeding experience and knowledge are necessary in order to avoid wasting time (and gardens) on schwag.

2. Once you have pollen from a good, pure male, you can use a brush or Q-tip to apply that pollen to a flowering female bud. Do this careful application at two to four weeks into the flowering period for best results. As the plants near harvest, you'll see plump seeds growing throughout the affected female flowers.

3. You can continually clone from vegetating plants in order to stay supplied with cuttings without affecting the desirable traits. Avoid cloning from plants that have suffered from stress and pests, as these will have been degraded due to their circumstances.

THAI STICK

I'm an old-school smoker (first toke was back in 1967). Whatever happened to the Thai Stick that we used to get in those days? I served in Nam, and I've never experienced a more electrifying high than we got from those things. Whoever wrote that government BS propaganda that the weed is 10 times stronger these days never puffed on the Thai! Also, cannabis works for PTSD. Keep up the green work!

OldVet420

Dear OV,

Sadly, the practice of growing and creating the legendary Thai Stick is quickly becoming a lost art. Very little, if any, ever leaves the confines of Thailand, and the traditional clandestine growers have mostly shifted over to the more profitable poppy plant.

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from the highland and lowland Thai *sativas* that made up the classic Thai Stick. The few times I've had the opportunity to taste and absorb the incredible strains of Southeast Asia, I've been amazed at their uplifting and euphoric effects.

Also, thank you for your service to our nation. Veterans such as yourself should be free to consume all the cannabis they desire, and I know a few growers who'd be happy to provide it at cost or even free of charge to someone who sacrificed so much for our country. I hope more vets suffering from PTSD or any other ailments that they incurred during their tours of duty discover the benefits of cannabis as medicine and turn away from the hard drugs and poisons being unscrupulously peddled to them by the VA.

CLEAR CUPS

I transplanted some clones into clear plastic cups using Happy Frog potting soil and Plant Success Granular to maximize root growth. It's been a couple of days, and I have watered them as needed. I noticed today that around the root-ball, there appears to be a green moss or fungus. Do you have any idea what this is, and also what I can do to get rid of it if need be?

Hans

Dear Hans,

The green fungus that you're seeing is algae that has grown in your container because you used clear plastic cups. The cups allow light to reach your wet medium, creating the perfect situation for the mossy mess to begin competing with your

plants for nutrients (and also creating a breeding ground for pests and harmful molds). Transplant your clones immediately into larger, opaque containers with plenty of soil mix; this way, you'll avoid harming your medium with fungus that isn't beneficial and can be quite harmful to boot.

LIGHT & STRAINS

What are the most highly recommended lights and fixtures for a beginner to use, and what's the best, easiest and highest-yielding strain that I could grow indoors? I'm used to growing outdoors, but I'm thinking about switching to indoors and will be starting with 10 plants after I get some input from the experts.

Brian

Dear Brian,

I recommend starting with a 400-watt HPS or MH light and ballast. Hang the bulb horizontally with a proper reflector that directs the majority of the lumens downwards. Once you've mastered the 400-watt light, you can move up to the 600- or 1,000-watt versions for bigger harvests (but also much more heat to deal with). Some people start with fluorescent lighting, but I think it's best for rooting clones and keeping mother plants alive than for actual flowering.

GROWING IN ARIZONA

Hey, man! I used to smoke weed a lot in the '70s and '80s and then occasionally in the years since. I have always considered smoking bud on a par with drinking alcohol (except for the gut-

busting laughs that only smoking provides). Now that I've turned 50, the injuries from my youth have started catching up with me. I live in AZ, where Prop. 203 just passed, and I plan to apply for a medical-marijuana card. Depending on how far away I am from the nearest dispensary, I want to grow my own and set up a small growroom. I'd like to try this spending somewhere between \$1,000 and \$1,500.

At this point, I'm pretty much overloaded with information and feeling quite confused. I know I want to grow four to six plants with hydroponics in two 4' x 4' x 6' grow tents. Will the plants feeding off a drip system (in my vegetative room) and an ebb-and-flow system (in my budding room) do well? Are DWC systems better? Some of my other concerns are lighting, ventilation and odor control—so many choices, but which ones are right for me? What components would you recommend? I'd appreciate any info that you can provide.

Doug Y. in AZ

Dear Doug,
Congratulations on the passage of Prop. 203 in AZ! Sounds like you have some great first ideas on how to get started. Growing in tents, as you suggested, is a great option if you can't have a fully dedicated room for the plants. Just be sure to use enough ventilation so that heat won't build up in your tent and slow growth. Both the drip and ebb-and-flow hydroponic systems will work fine for your vegging and flowering areas. DWC systems are great, too, but they need a bit more fine-tuning in order to ensure speedy root development.

As for lighting, I would stick to a 400- or 600-watt HPS for your grow tent. Use a fan to draw hot air from the top of the tent through a charcoal filter that removes the odor before it's vented out. Good luck!

GREEN GODDESS

I am a true rookie when it comes to anything requiring a green thumb, but I'm trying to do it right the first time. I have an area of 30 square feet by 7 feet high. I want the best quality I can grow, and I have good seed stock; I also have 220 and 110 volts and good ventilation. My research so far has come up with going with a deep-water culture (DWC) system and LED lights. I don't want to invest any money in the system yet because I want to be sure of what I'm getting. My budget is approximately \$2,000 to set this thing up. Any advice, plans or brand names to go with?

Amanda

Dear Amanda,
As I noted above, I recommend HID lighting (either HPS or MH) over the alternatives, including LEDs for the time being. A good 1,000-watt HPS light would be ideal for your space and easily fits into your budget. DWC is a great way to maximize the growth rate and size of your plants, but be sure to do some research into hydroponics and aeroponics before taking it on. I can't really steer you toward one particular brand or model, but stick with companies that are tried and true over fly-by-night operators that are still working out the kinks in their systems. ✨

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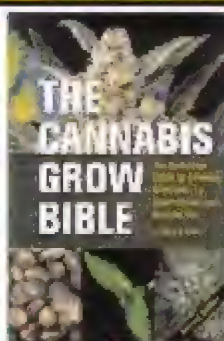
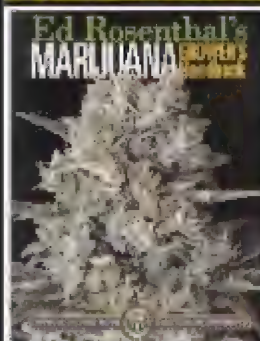
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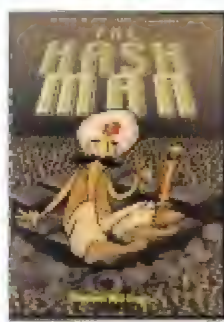
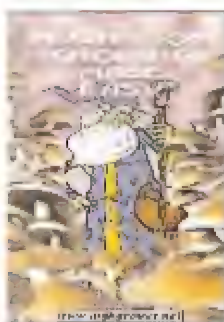
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Glass artist Tammy Ball works her magic.

GREAT GLASS OF 2011

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CUSTOM HYDRO DESIGN

Take a sneak peek inside a hydroponic growroom that produces 10 pounds of pot per cycle. This indoor farm reliably pumps out huge colas of strains like Blue Cheese, Granddaddy Purple and Casey Jones for the top shelves of California's finest medical-marijuana dispensaries.

HOW TO GUERRILLA GROW

That time of year is rapidly approaching—the time to veg your clones, pick your plot, amend your soil and, of course, make sure no one can find it! In this how-to article, cultivation editor Nico Escondido outlines the need-to-know on creating and maintaining a compact, bountiful secret garden from spring through fall.

TESTING THE LIMITS

Since late 2007, Steep Hill Lab has tested over 16,000 medical-cannabis samples, analyzing the percentage of THC, CBD and CBN in each in order to provide patients with the information they need to compare medicinal strains. Take an exclusive trip inside the nation's foremost cannabis-testing laboratory.

ADAM CAROLLA INTERVIEW

In *Fifty Years We'll All Be Chicks*. But don't be alarmed—that's just the title of Adam Carolla's bestselling new book. Next month, the former *Man Show* co-host and current podcast phenom tells HIGH TIMES about his enduring love for Mary Jane.

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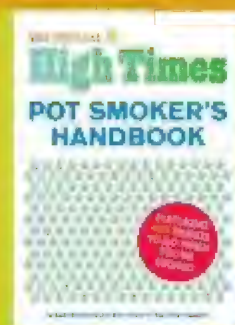
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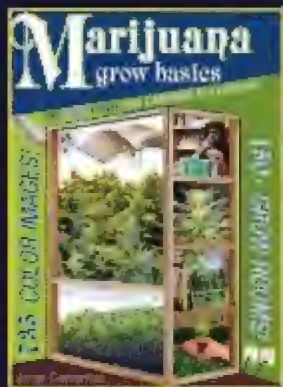
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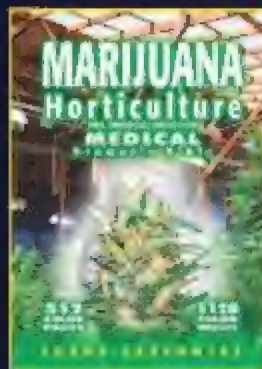


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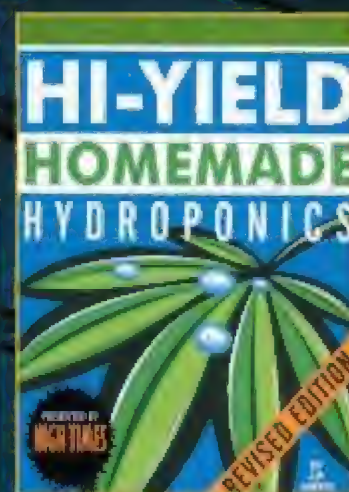
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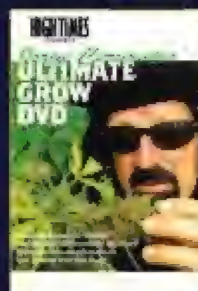
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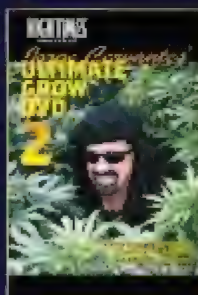
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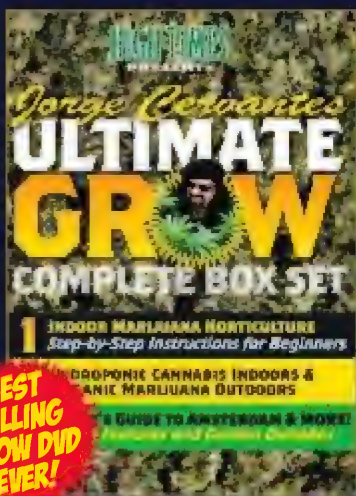
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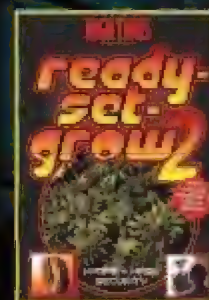
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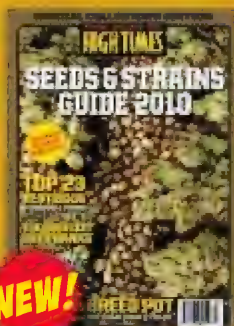
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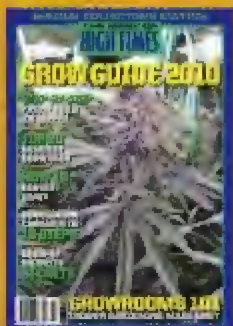
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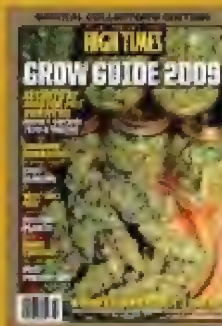
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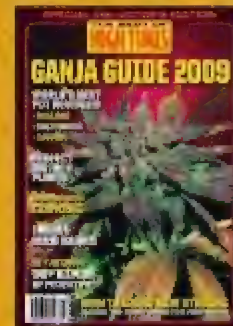
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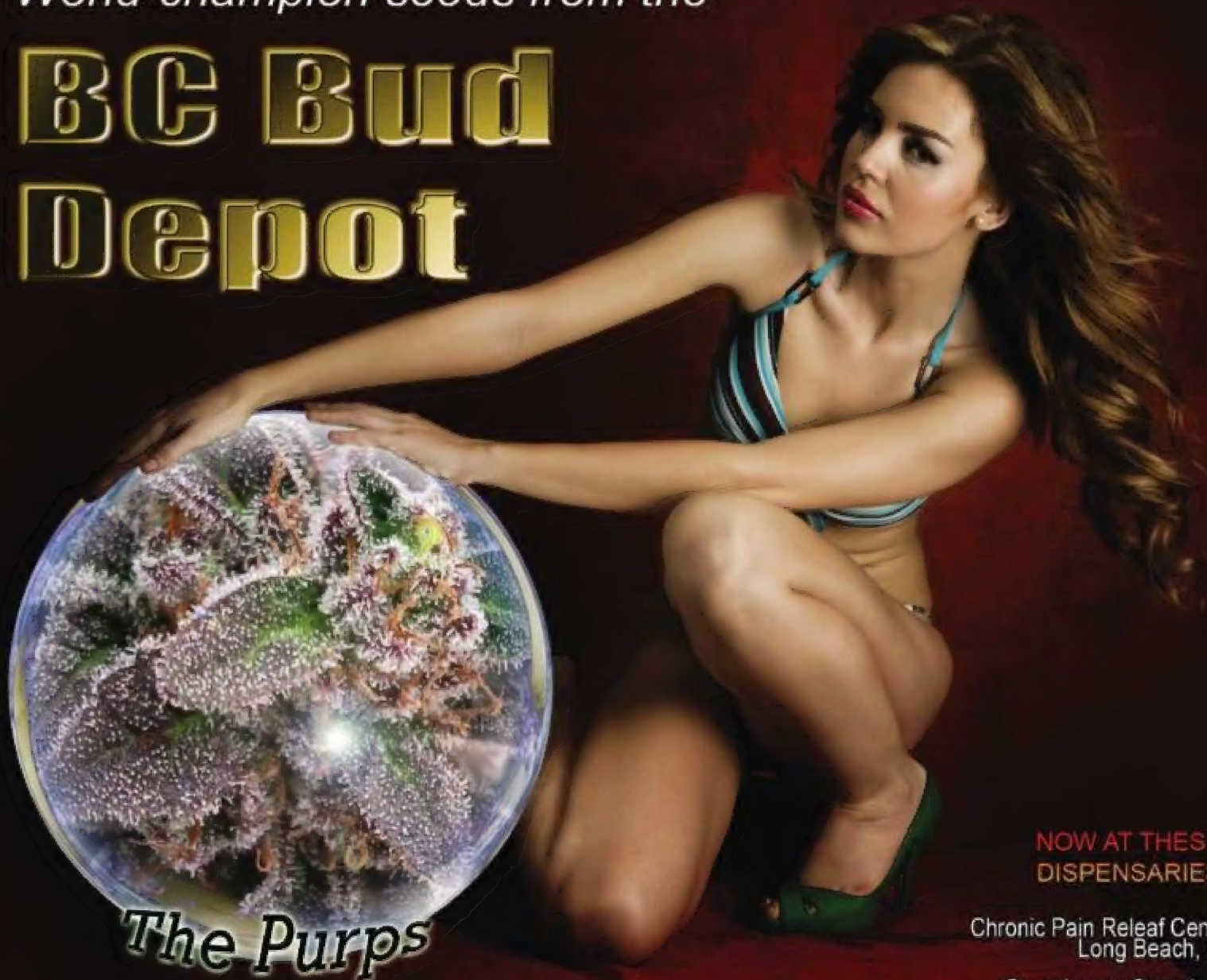
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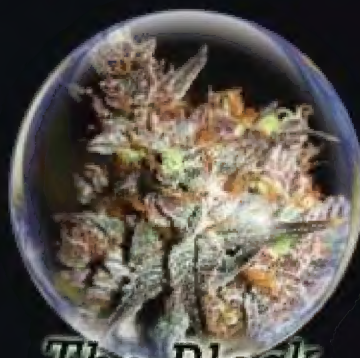
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